52a-1943
Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

Alabama

NEW GOVERNOR OF ALABAMA PLEDGES NEGROES JUSTICE

Jan. 29, 1943

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Jan. 28. —(ANP)—That Alabama will seek to better race relations through "independent development" for Negroes was pledged this week in the inaugural address of Gov. Chauncey Sparks at the state capital. He said he hoped to gain these ends by working toward the "equal opportunity to which men are entitled."

A part of the blame for conditions in the south was laid to the "peculiar social structure of our southern states" and on "trade barriers and political reprisals which have dragged the south down to the lowest level of per capita wealth and per capita income."

"We may not always have done what possibly others think we should have," said Sparks, "but we have tried, perhaps haltingly to be just and fair and to grant achieved rights to all entitled thereto. We have made mistakes. There has been exploitation there has been some injustice, there has been some economic cheating.

"But we of the south are not the only ones guilty of these things. There are those who cry for economic and political justice," he continued," but there should be no talk of economic justice until there is removed from the necks of the people of the south trade barriers, discriminatory rates and political reprisals."

The bachelor-farmer, who succeeds Frank M. Dixon as the state's chief executive, declared that the solution to Negro and whites "living together in peace" rested upon two irrevocable principles, "First, complete racial segregation; second, independent racial development."

"We do not propose to agitate," he said. "About our daily tasks we shall go and promote the welfare and the prosperity of our people and guarante to them justice, protection of all rights and equal opportunities to which men are entitled. This I know Alabama will do and it shall be my purpose to promote it."

52a-1943
New York Times
New York, N. Y.

SELF RULE STARTS IN BRITISH GUIANA

Legislative Assembly of Twenty-four Members Is Established

FOURTEEN ARE ELECTED

Governor Appoints Seven, Who Include Negro and East Indian Labor Leaders

GEORGETOWN, British Guiana (AP)—Sir Gordon Lethem, Governor of the colony, is currently implementing new constitutional amendments providing a greater measure of self-government. He has appointed seven members to the Legislative Assembly in an effort to give a voice to groups which cannot, under present restrictions, take part in the elections.

JUN 15 1943

The amendments provide for an Assembly of twenty-four members, presided over by the Governor who votes only in case of a tie. Of the total, fourteen are elected, three are ex-officio members—the colony secretary, the treasurer and the attorney general—and the other seven are appointive.

In naming these seven, Sir Gordon included the Negro president of the Stevedores' Union and the leader of East Indian agricultural workers. Others represent inland miners, the sugar planters, commercial and professional classes.

Biggest issues in recent Guiana politics have been extension of the franchise and qualifications for Assembly seats. At present, only persons with certain property qualifications or those earning at least $250 a year, may vote. Only those earning $200 a month or holding a greater amount of property may be elected to the Legislative Assembly. Thus, neither one of the labor leaders could be elected. A franchise commission is studying proposals for a more democratic vote.

"I believe," the Governor said, "that within a year or so a decision will be made to grant either complete adult suffrage or a lower income qualification."

In placing the Indian spokesman on the Assembly, the Governor is seeking to cut off any wild-eyed opposition by giving it a voice and making it share responsibility.

Guiana has a minority headache in the growing population of sons and daughters of Mother India, who total approximately 40 per cent of Guiana's 350,000 persons. Only 20 or 25 per cent of these can read or write English, and they constitute a colony within a colony.

In recent years they have been buying up land and now hold large tracts, but getting them to participate in the community's life has been difficult. Many, both Hindu and Moslem, have agitated for autonomy within Guiana.

Approximately another 40 per cent is Negro or partly Negro, while the balance includes a large Chinese colony, many Portuguese and a thin upper crust of Britishers. The Portuguese have grown wealthy in business and land.

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Youth for Victory

APR 26 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Review Director, Young Communist League)

The "Town Hall Meeting of the Air" had a very interesting debate the other night on the 18-Year-Old Vote. One of the speakers, "pro," made an interesting comment when she said that the young people today are more mature and alert on all political issues, and that this is due to the impact of the war upon the thinking of the young people. This is very true and is perhaps best illustrated in the growing numbers of young workers, students, Negro and white, who are flocking into the Young Communist League in the present recruiting drive.

The YCL appeals to these youth because it is an organization which combines political action with a rounded out program of war activities, social life, sports and education. The club of the YCL is the place where young people see the league in all of its activities.

How can the YCL Club best educate these new members, all of its members, as well as bring the program of the YCL to the youth of the community? The answer is in the "printed word." The printed word in this instance is the **Weekly Review**, the magazine which is out to win the youth for the victory program of the YCL. We can't emphasize too much the educational role of **Weekly Review** in making clear to thousands of new members and friends of the league what this war means to America's youth. The **Weekly Review** provides the Club with the arguments with which to rally young people to support the Second Front, 18-Year-Old Vote, Anti-Poll Tax Legislation, For Soviet-American Friendship, etc.

An example of the special contribution of the **Weekly Review** to the war effort is the way it handled the "Times" quiz of college freshmen on their knowledge of American history. In a recent issue of the magazine Earl Browder threw out the challenge that "he learns his history best who loves his country most." If you examine each issue of the Review you will find articles which develop the history and traditions of our country and their meaning in the present war of liberation. This must sink home to the leaders and members of the YCL Clubs. The Review is an instrument for educating the youth in the community on our war tasks and to cherish the history and traditions of our country.

The Review has been very effective in aiding the Clubs to recruit new members. Young people who read the Review once or twice are more ready to join the YCL, and in most cases do. In Pittsburgh a dedication of Club centers was held. Many of the young people who attended first became acquainted with the YCL through buying a Review from a YCL canvasser. Eleven new members joined the YCL that night.

APR 26 1943

The YCL Club can increase its influence in the community and achieve its goal in the present recruiting drive by increasing the circulation of the Review and boldly recruiting these new readers into the YCL.

In the last three weeks in May the YCL nationally will intensify its campaign for a bigger Review circulation with the aim of having 10,000 subscribers on May 31. The week of May 10-16 will be concentrated on securing renewals of all March, April and May subs. The suggestions are:

1. Each Club of the YCL should mobilize a group of comrades for this one task. The comrades to be given cards of subscribers to visit.

2. SUNDAY, May 16, is to be the culminating point of the week's activities. Clubs can arrange a Sunday morning breakfast inviting the club members. At the breakfast the remaining subscribers are to be divided among the comrades and the "treasure hunt" for renewals begins. The comrades should report back and discuss their experiences.

3. A goal should be set by each state organization and club of the number of renewals that can be obtained. If possible a leading member of the state leadership should be assigned to work with a Club.

The Review will give to the state doing the best work for this week a 22- ook library on American history.

APR 26 1943

The last two weeks in May the Clubs must strive to obtain new subscribers for the Review. To any individual who secures 15 dollar (half-year) subs the Review will give a copy of the new best seller by Howard Fast "Citizen Tom Paine."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

NEGRO WOMEN SWELL COMMUNIST RANKS

Negroes, women, and workers in industry are prominent among those joining the Communist Party, a preliminary survey of the statistics of the current Party building drive in New York shows. An analysis of the first six weeks of the Drive which has just been made by the New York State organization of the Party reveals that of the 2,720 recruits analyzed, 539 are Negroes, 1,320 are women, and 1,406 are in industry, of whom 390 are in heavy industry.

The proportion of Negroes is 19.8 per cent, which is a considerable improvement of the relative strength of Negro membership in the Party. A very large number of these Communists Negroes are working in industry, it is revealed, and about half of them are women.

Women comprise 48.5 per cent of the recruits. This figure is not regarded as satisfactory by the State Committee leadership in view of the growing importance of women in all phases of life, particularly in the trade unions and industry. Special efforts are being made, under the leadership of Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, to rectify this situation. Comrade Flynn's astounding success as the ace recruiter of the State will no doubt affect the figures for the latter part of the Drive.

Fifty-one and seven tenths per cent of the recruits are in industry; 14.3 per cent in basic industry. The next largest single group is housewives, who make up 19.6 percent of the recruits. Then follow office and white collar workers with 17.3 per cent and professional workers with 7.2 per cent.

BUILDERS CONGRESS

These figures were released in preparation for the Party Builders Congress on Sunday, April 4th at 1 P.M. at Manhattan Center, 34th St. and 8th Ave. At this Congress the star recruiters of the Party will report to Earl Browder. While only Party builders will be delegates to the Congress, all Party members are invited to the Congress and to bring their contacts with them so that they can be recruited at the Congress.

Earl Browder will make a major political speech on the Alter-Ehrlich intrigue, it was announced.

The plans for the Congress include, in addition to the speech of Browder, a brief address by Israel Amter, State Chairman of the Party, and an analysis of the Party-Building Drive by Gilbert Green, State Secretary. The bulk of the meeting, however, will be given over to the delegates, who will report on their experiences and their plans for bringing in the 5,000 new members, which is the goal of the New York organization by May 1.

in his work for us."

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

OPA Blushes at Learning Ex-Aid Was a Communist

By the United Press.

WASHINGTON, June 22.—OPA An OPA spokesman said that faces firing red today whenever Dr. Wilkerson in his application an OPA mentioned Dr. Doxey A. denied membership in any or- Wilkerson, recently resigned ganization that advocated the $3800-a-year employee of OPA. overthrow of the government of the United States by force or

Dr. Wilkerson, a Negro, is a work-violence."

ing member of the Communist The explanation appeared to be party, but apparently no one that Dr. Wilkerson had only joined around the OPA suspected it. the Communist Party

Dr. Wilkerson resigned June 15 for the OPA. Dr. Wilkerson after a year with OPA on leave prepared educational material on from Howard University. Sub-price control and rationing for sequently, the Communist party Negro schools. An OPA official announced that Dr. Wilkerson had said, "Wilkerson was on the level

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Browder Scores Lewis in Detroit

MAY 12 1943

By Tom Dombrowski

(Special to the Daily Worker)

DETROIT, May 11.—It was on November 9, 1942, the day following the invasion of Africa by American troops that Earl Browder addressed a huge audience of war workers in Detroit and announced that this American offensive was a prelude to the invasion of Europe.

On May 10, six months and one day later, when the Nazis were being mopped up by American, British and French forces, Browder told almost 3,000 men and women engaged in the production of war materials, who had filled the Graystone Ballroom despite the rain and inclement weather, that the preliminaries in the war were over and the big show was to begin.

Browder warned that the irrational optimism that was all over but the shouting was unjustified and that the war was just beginning for our country and that America still had to meet the test.

"Victory comes only at a price," he stated, "and that price is dead and wounded."

He made it clear that the death sentence has been written out for Hitler, but that it still must be executed through a mighty blow of the United Nations coalition.

LEWIS, REUTHER

Cheers greeted Browder as he appealed for all working people to repudiate the policies of Lewis, Reuther and Company, whose activities would result in lengthening the rolls of the American dead and wounded. Devoting most of his speech to the indictment of the demagogic, anti-war activities of these labor leaders, he exposed their real role as wreckers of the war effort.

Of particular interest to the UAW-CIO members present was Browder's careful analysis of the Reuther line within the union, Reuther's opposition to incentive pay and increased production and his hypocritical championing of the strike threat. In contrast, Browder's appraisal of the excellent leadership of Philip Murray brought cheers from the crowd.

In his opening remarks, Pat Toohey, state secretary of the Michigan Communist Party, informed the audience that the three months membership drive had brought 861 new members into the Party. Wading in with both fists against the defeatist Socialists and Trotzkyite traitors he quoted treacherous excerpts from speeches of Matt Smith, MESA dictator; Tucker Smith, organizer of the Wholesale and Retail Union, Victor Reuther, brother of Walter Reuther, and Norman Thomas at recent Socialist banquet held in Detroit.

He pledged the Communist Party to an uncompromising fight against these unpatriotic elements.

After stating that it would require the united effort of all groups in America to win the war, George W. Cook, representative of the Treasury Department complimented the Communist Party on its co-operation in the bond drives. He said, "It is fitting that I give full credit to you and your organization for your wholehearted response to your Government's appeal for aid in the war bond drives."

Alfred Meredith, spokesman for the American Red Cross, called upon the audience to donate blood to the boys in the armed services. He indicated that the blood cost the donor nothing, yet to the wounded on the front it was the difference between life or death.

In the name of the Young Communist League, its youthful Negro educational director, Tom Dennis, hailed the success of the Allied Armies in Africa and pledged the continued cooperation of the YCL in the war effort. He took the occasion to strike out at the policies of discrimination still practiced in most of the war plants as doing grevous harm to the war effort.

He also elaborated on the vicious role of the Socialists and Trotzkyites among the Negro people.

Wilkerson Quits H.U for Communist Post

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Doxey A. Wilkerson resigned Saturday as associate professor of education at Howard University and education specialist in the Office of Price Administration to accept "permanent employment" in the educational program of the Communist party of the United States.

His resignation was based, according to Mr. Wilkerson, upon the conviction that the best way "to devote my maximum efforts as a civilian to the promotion of our nation's war effort" is through "helping to strengthen the home front against the ever-mounting attacks of pro-Axis forces in our country."

Professor Wilkerson has been a member of the faculty of Howard University since 1935. During the past year he has been on leave from the university, serving as education specialist in the OPA department of Information.

Joins Communist Party

His new work will be with the Maryland-District of Columbia District of the Communist party. Mr. Wilkerson took out membership in the party this morning.

In an interview here last week, he stated that his decision to join and accept employment with the Communist party came after he passed the maximum military service age of 38 several weeks ago.

In his letter of resignation to Dr. J. St. Clair Price, acting dean of the college of liberal Arts at Howard, Prof. Wilkerson said, in part:

Socialism "Necessary Cure"

"I have always been frank and outspoken in my enthusiasm for socialism as the fundamental and necessary cure for the major social problems which confront our nation and the world. During this period, of course, the struggle for socialism must be subordinated to the immediate and paramount tasks of victory.

"It is but natural, however, that I should some day seek affiliation with the Communist party which I regard as the only American party whose principles and program will ultimately convince the American people that the approach to complete democracy must be through the socialist organization of our society.

"'Thus, the urgent wartime motivation serves but to reinforce a long-time conviction which, in itself, would certainly have led me at some time to take the step announced in this letter."

Crowd Pickets

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Detroit Hughes

Detroit (ANP)— Claiming that the famed poet Langston Hughes is an "atheistic communist, a self-confessed communist and a notorious blasphemous poet," the American First party of which Gerald L. Smith is national director, Wednesday noon protested against his appearance as convocation speaker at Wayne University.

Around 100 members of the organization formed a picket line in front of the university and marched back and forth waving the American flag, and distributing literature condemning the school officials for permitting Hughes to appear on the program at Wayne, which is supported by tax-paying citizens.

Circulars stated: "Imagine bringing a man like this to our tax-supported university— of all times— one week before Holy Week."

DELIVERS ADDRESS

Despite it all Hughes delivered his address at the appointed hour, in the auditorium of the school, in the presence of the entire student body.

The poet said that such demonstrations were nothing unusual for him; "I have been greeted by pickets before". In expressing his view anent christianity, he said.

"I am for the christianity that fights poll tax, race discrimination, lynching, injustice and inequality of the masses. I don't feel that religion should be used to beat down Jews, Negroes and to persecute other minority groups. There are churches here in America in which I would be refused the privilege to worship because of my color. Christianity should be used to make America a place in which all Americans could live and work in peace and safety and enjoy the right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Many of the women out there in the picket lines have sons on various battle fronts and some of these boys will doubtless lose their lives. We are fighting for democracy in America and the world, and we all hope that those who die for this cause may not die in vain.

Several of his poems which he read were in tribute to the late Dr. Carver.

Wilkerson Debuts, As Communist

Chicago Defender
July 10, 1943

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Making his initial address as a member of the Communist party, Doxey A. Wilkerson, former Howard university professor, Sunday night called upon the "little people" of America to speak and act quickly to stop the race riots and other "pro-axis attacks upon our war effort."

The address on "Race Riots-Hitler's Weapons on the Home Front," was delivered over radio station WINX.

Mr. Wilkerson said:

"The race riots now breaking out all over the country are much more than unfortunate expressions of our traditional race prejudices. These riots are one of Hitler's most dangerous weapons on the home front. They represent direct intervention in the war on the part of our enemies. They are part and parcel of an even larger conspiracy against the war effort of our nation."

The "larger conspiracy," he said, includes the John L. Lewis mine strike; congressional attempts to destroy OPA, OWI, and NYA; and passage of the anti-labor Smith-Connally bill. All, he said, are powerful blows directed against our war effort by enemy forces within the country.

Mr. Wilkerson called for "an aroused people" to act quickly to protect the nation's home front from internal attack. He urged that organizations and individual citizens demand: (1) full support of President Roosevelt's win-th-war program, (2) investigation and prosecution of the race riot instigators (3) assessage of a federal civil rights bill, (4) repeal of the poll tax, (5) "repeal of the infamous Smith-Connally bill," and (6) a strong and vital FEPC.

Ohio Negro Paper Backs Communist

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y. (Special to the Daily Worker)

CLEVELAND, Oct. 21.—The Cleveland Call and Pos Ohio's leading Negro newspaper today called for the ele tion of Arnold Johnson, Ohio Communist leader, to the Boar of Education in the interest of "making democracy live an work."

In a feature editorial endorsing several Negro candidates running for municipal office throughout the state, the paper calls attention to the need for electing John F. Morning to the Cleveland Board of Education so that the Negro people will be represented by this "qualified and capable" candidate.

It then adds: **"It is imperative that we be represented on the Board of Education with our own as well as others who realize the value of our schools as agencies for making democracy live and work.** With this in mind, the Call-Post endorses the candidacy of Arnold S. Johnson."

William O. Walker, its editor, has been an integral part of the Republican machine here for years and is one of Cleveland's veteran City Councilmen.

The paper's support of Johnson has further political significance inasmuch as it disregards the two white Republican candidates endorsed by the so-called "Citizens School Board Committee," together with John Morning, for the three vacancies.

NON-PARTISAN GROUP

The action of the Call-Post indicated that the Negro people recognize the Communist leader as the most consistent advocate of ending segregation and other forms of discrimination in the schools; that they are not going to support business-as-usual politicians in a final deal for support of the Negro candidate.

Simultaneously with the Call-Post's endorsement, several outstanding Negro leaders today announced the formation of a Non-Partisan Negro Citizens Committee on Cleveland education, which is seeking to elect Johnson and Morning. The committee already comprises 70 prominent Negro citizens including Theodore M. Williams, assistant city prosecutor, and such church leaders as Rev. A. J. Thomas, Rev. E. L. Wilson, Rev R. L. Crittendon and the Rev. D W. Hill.

Among the more than a dozen leading trade unionists are Raymond Dennis, Cleveland CIO executive board member and shop chairman of National Smelting; Edward M. Webb, an officer of the United Auto Workers Midland Steel Local and chairman of the Southwaite Homes Tenants Council; Abe Lewis, vice-president AFL Cleaners and Dyers; Lee Morgan, a leader of the AFL Auto Union; Admiral Kilpatrick and George Thompson, president and secretary respectively Local 735, Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers; and Oscar Ruckser, recording secretary Local 735 United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers.

Communist Party Ousts A. Herndon

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga. SEP 17 1943

NEW YORK—(A N P)—According to his friends, the recent ouster of Angele Herndon from the Communist party may be attributed to two chief reasons, first, his efforts to escape the draft proved embarrassing to the party in view of its all-out war crusade, and secondly, Herndon's growing conviction that Communists are neglecting the cause of the American Negro in their advocacy of an immediate second front in Europe.

The party disavows any responsibility for Herndon, former member of the Central committee or for the editorial or business policies of the Nego Quarterly which he edits.

Herndon lost an attempt in August to be reclassified from 1-A to 2-A on the selective service list, on the grounds that he was indispensable as editor of the publication. He has been active in the Communist party as an organizer in the south and attracted attention in 1937 when the supreme court voted to free him from an 18-20 year sentence imposed in Georgia [illegible] attempting to incite [illegible] lion.

SEP 17 1943

SEP 17 1943

Robeson Shocked at Ruling on Mrs. Browder

DEC 14 1943
Daily Worker New York, N. Y.
DEC 14 1943

Paul Robeson yesterday appealed to President Roosevelt to set aside the deportation order against Mrs. Raissa Browder in the spirit of the Iran conference which "emphasized the underlying need for decent treatment toward citizens of all the United Nations."

DEC 14 1943

In a letter to the President, published in PM, Robeson declared:

I was shocked when I saw in this morning's papers that the Board of Immigration Appeals had refused to set aside the deportation order against Raissa Browder. The attempt by the Government to separate a wife and mother from her family would be dreadful at any time, but it is particularly so now when the Iran conference has emphasized the underlying need for decent treatment toward citizens of all the United Nations.

As far as I can make out, Mrs. Browder's "evasiveness" consisted in her refusal to attack the Soviet Government under which she had lived for many years, and to defame her husband and the American Communist Party of which he is the general secretary. In these days of close cooperation with the Soviet Union, many Americans had come to feel that the Government no longer would resort to persecuting individuals who refused to malign our gallant ally and the Communist Party in this country.

Aside from the unfortunate political aspects of this case, its human aspects are at least equally deplorable. I have referred to the breaking up of the Browder family. Because such results had come to be regarded as tragic and unnecessary, Congress recently passed a law authorizing the abandonment of deportation proceedings against alien members of American families where the only charge against them was their allaged failure to comply with technical entry requirements. Apparently, it is only in the case of Mrs. Browder that these humane provisions have been disregarded and the principle of equal protection of the laws ignored.

I appeal to you as the Chizef Executive, Mr. President, to see that the laws are applied impartially, and that Mrs. Browder be permitted to live unmolested with her family in the United States.

Spur Council Drives For Cacchione, Davis

SEP 27 1943
Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

More than 2,000 people heard Councilman Peter V. Cacchione demand yesterday that the federal, state and city governments make better provision for taking care of the children of working mothers.

Councilman Cacchione spoke at a block rally in Crown Heights, called by the Crown Heights Community Council to raise funds for a nursery for work-ing mothers of the neighborhood. The Communist Councilman, running for re-election in November, stated that in the entire City of New York there are only 1,500 children being cared for with public funds, while 90,000 women are needed in industry in the city.

The situation will become more critical when fathers are drafted.

non-partisan committee of Negro and white civic, labor, religious and professional leaders who want to work on the campaign to elect Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., to the City Council.

Davis, outstanding fighter for Negro rights and head of the Communist Party in Manhattan, may be the first Communist to be elected to public office from Manhattan. He is getting wide support both from labor and from the people.

Committees for the election of Davis are being organized in several trade unions, some under of-ficial sponsorship of the union and others unofficially.

Present allotments are not enough to support families to ficial levels. Yesterday's meeting was the first of a series which Councilman Cacchione ap-peared in recent weeks. He will now resume active campaigning after a lengthy illness, his office announced.

In Manhattan, a high-powered



The Worker
New York, N. Y.

THE PEOPLE'S VOICE, *New York Negro paper, devoted a full tabloid page to this picture captioned: "New and Old"—the newly elected city Councilman Ben Davis (left) is being congratulated by Councilman Adam Clayton Powell, who did not run for a second term but threw complete support to Davis.*

Communist Kind of Candidates

RECENTLY in New York City and elsewhere newspapers and politicians were in a flurry over the election results scored by the Communist Party.

A few admitted the Communists had a good program and that they took the elections seriously, campaigning day and night on the issues of the day. Others went further and commented upon the choice of candidates . . . it was as if they were inclined to blame the Communist Party for choosing the right kind. There was a suggestion that the Communist Party had violated election ethics by putting up men and women whose lives and roots and activities were all centered in the people.

Well, the all important record, the fighting record of real people's leaders, throws a revealing light on the success of Communist candidates in the recent elections. Not that their success is apart or different from the regard in which the people are coming to hold the Communist Party itself. On the contrary, the individual record of each of these men and women is in a way a miniature history of the Party itself—a record of principled struggle, of loyalty to the people. Take Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., the second Communist in New York City to be elected to the City Council, and the first one from the island of Manhattan. Ben Davis at 40 looks back on a decade of real battles on tough territory—from the days when he first challenged a jim crow court from the fight against fascism. Last year he entered the political field in the campaign for Congress. This year he was elected to Council. And the fight goes on. . . .

The story of Peter V. Cacchione is one that Communists and reactionaries have both studied—the former with love and pride, the latter with hate and fear. For Pete Cacchione is much more than a name in New York City politics. His record in the City Council has indelibly imprinted on the minds of the people an impression of the integrity and alertness of the Communist Party on all issues affecting the people.

Pete came from the stock of Italian-Americans who have contributed so much to the sturdiness, beauty and democracy of America. Pete's parents were immigrants but he was born in Syracuse and he saw army life and truck driving and railroad work and shipyards before the depression introduced him to organization of the unemployed.

In the Communist Party, which he joined 10 years ago, Pete Cacchione rose to leadership because of the very qualities which brought him the highest number of first count votes in the recent councilmanic elections.

IN CLEVELAND, Ohio, the first week in November a Communist by the name of Arnold S. Johnson polled 47,000 votes as candidate for the Board of Education—the biggest vote ever recorded for a Communist in that lake front city.

Arnold Johnson's campaign, like all the other Communist campaigns, was conducted strictly on the war issues. His slogan was "Education for Victory."

And who is he? A man most capable of helping to guide the destinies and education of those Americans of the future—the children. Born in Seattle, Washington, he was working in the lumber mills of the northwest at the age of 12. Education was his dream and his ambition and he worked his way through high school and later through university, studying theology and law. Twelve years ago, also through the experiences and observations of a young American in a depression ridden world, he found the labor movement and then the Communist Party.

In San Francisco, another great war city with a proud record, the voters gave Dorothy O'Connor's name 40,000 votes as a candidate for the Board of Supervisors. That was 10,000 more votes than any previous Communist candidate had ever polled. And it wasn't Mrs. O'Connor's beauty that piled up that vote—although San Franciscans found her posters the most decorative of all candidates—it was her staunch fighting record as a fearless spokesman for the people, her own personal record and her party's reputation in the war effort and against discrimination.

IN Boston, where Otis Archer Hood, the state chairman of the Communist Party, polled more than 12,000 votes as candidate for the School Board, the story is the same. An unflinching adherent to an honest fighting program—that was the Communist election recipe in Boston too.

There were other Communist candidates in other communities who showed the people that politics is their own field, a weapon to help win the war and secure the peace. Wherever a Communist candidate was on the ballot you can be sure he was of the same character—the kind of man or woman whom the reactionaries don't like to worry about because they'll never be able to put up that kind of candidate themselves—they only grow on people's soil.

IT WAS Ben Davis, Jr., who, as the attorney for Angelo Herndon in 1933, fought the prejudice of a jim crow court and demanded that the real issues of the case come to the fore. It was Ben Davis, Jr., who became one of the most familiar figures in the Scottsboro Defense—tireless Ben Davis who fought the Scottsboro frameup with all the personal fury of a leader who feels with his people.

And in New York Ben Davis continued his unwearying battle for a better America to embrace and fulfill the needs of the Negro people and all others. As a writer and editor he spoke up on every issue, fought the phonies who sought to mislead them—a way in Georgia—till today when he stands at the head of his people fighting fascism.

D. C. Communists Urge Passage Of Civil Rights Measure Here

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

A resolution urging the passage of a civil rights bill in the Nation's Capital was passed last Wednesday by the Frederick Douglass Branch of the Communist Party. The resolution said in Part:

WHEREAS in our nation's capital there exists the most vicious system of segregation and discrimination against the Negro people which does not allow them to enter all public theatres, restaurants, cafeterias, and other public places,

WHEREAS there is now in the Sub-Judiciary Committee of the House of Representative's Committee on District Affairs a bill introduced into Congress by Rep. of Ohio thereof

Be it resolved that the Frederick Douglass Club of the Communist Party of Washington, D. C., strongly urges the District Committee of the House and democracy, and its sub-

52a-1943
The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Browder's Pupils Unlock U. S. History

MAR 22 1943

By Joseph Fields

Earl Browder has helped to rear a growing school of younger writers and teachers of American history who have contributed enormously to a real interpretation of the epic struggles of our nation's past. By the guiding light of Marxist-Leninist theory they have helped to revitalize and rescue the most significant epochs of our history from dusty archives and from the lies and distortions of reactionary historians.

In his book, "The People's Front," published in 1937, Browder wrote:

"In our fight against reaction and fascism, a great role can and must be played by a revived and deepened understanding of the history of our country, and the wealth of revolutionary traditions with which it abounds. Far too long have we been neglectful of it. . . . We have . . . the key to unlock these great treasures, in the scientific study of history, historical materialism, founded by Marx and Engels and developed by Lenin and Stalin. With this key even our first tentative approach to American history transforms it into a living thing, full of meat and meaning for today, throwing light and understanding upon every problem which our country faces at this time."

Under the inspiration and encouragement of Browder's own writings, our literature on issues and forces in American history has been considerably expanded. It is with the aid of "the scientific study of history, historical materialism," that we are today able to understand the historic connections between the American War of Independence, the French Revolution, the Civil War, the great Socialist October Revolution of 1917, and the present global War of National Liberation. It is only through such a study that we can comprehend the historic thread that joins the great Magna Charta, the Declaration of Independence and Bill of Rights of the U. S. Constitution, and the Constitution of the USSR, of which Stalin prophetically declared in 1936

MAR 22 1943

Marx Studied

The greatest founders and teachers of modern scientific socialism, Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin, found in the study of America's history a rich source of lessons for all humanity in the struggle for national liberation and human emancipation. In such books as "The Civil War in the United States," by Marx and Engels, in "The First American Revolution," by Jack Hardy, in "Reconstruction: The Battle for Democracy," by James S. Allen, in such pamphlets as "Thaddeus Stevens," by Elizabeth Lawson, and "Harriet Tubman; Negro Soldier and Abolitionist," by Earl Conrad, and in the splendid series of pamphlets on the role of the Negro in American history by Herbert Aptheker, we have the core of an invaluable Marxist library on American history which it should be a matter of pride for advanced workers to possess, to read and study constantly.

It will be good news to all active fighters against the Hitlerite Axis to learn that a new pamphlet by A. B. Magil, "The Battle for America: 1776-1861-1941," is being made available this month; that a number of new books and pamphlets are being prepared for publication in connection with the 200th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson, which falls in April; that a new study of the life of Wendell Phillips, Abolitionist leader and one of the most advanced democrats of his day, will soon be ready for the press; and that the long-awaited work by Francis Franklin on "The American Republic," is almost completed and will be ready for Spring publication.

These new additions to the growing body of literature on American history should further spur the widespread study and discussion of those great crises our nation confronted in the past, which the American people united to meet and solve in the spirit of America's glorious democratic tradition.

Communists

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Detroit Negroes to Hold War Parley

MAR 17 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

DETROIT, March 16.—The war problems of the Negro people in Detroit will be discussed at an emergency win-the-war conference called by the East Side Section of the Communist Party for Sunday, March 28 at 1 P.M. at the Lucy Thurman YWCA, 539 East Elizabeth St. Representatives of trade unions, civic, youth, fraternal, political, church and women's organizations have been seen the call.

With this great arsenal of democracy confronted by every conceivable problem, it is most sharply reflected in an aggravated form in the Negro communities. The huge East Side slum areas, which account for most of the cases of tuberculosis in Detroit, are inhabited largely by Negroes. James W. Ford, who has signed the call, says about this area.

MAR 17 1943

"In this community, milk has gone up a penny; meat is beyond the worker's pocketbook. Impure and deteriorated meat and foodstuffs are dumped into Negro neighborhoods and sold at fantastic prices.

MAR 17 1943

"Price and rent control have broken down. There are practically no child nurseries and Negro mothers find it harder to take their place in war industry. Moreover, discrimination bars thousands of Negro men and women from jobs in war industry and are denied adequate and decent housing. There are many other evils and jim-crow conditions created by the enemies of democracy which require emergency action."

Invitations have been sent to representatives of the Regional War Manpower Commission, Office of Price Administration, housing and health authorities as well as to progressive legislators, labor and civic leaders.

MAR 17 1943

The fight for jobs in war industry, decent housing without discrimination, for price control and rationing and for wartime legislation will be subjects presented by various speakers.

"Unity of the Negro people behind this people's war will be the keynote of the conference," stated Mattielee Woodson, outstanding Negro woman leader in charge of the conference. "The fight for centralized war economy which will see the Negro people an integral part of the war effort, the struggle against the defeatists and fifth column and for the building a civilian defense program in our communities are matters of vital interest to all of the community. That is why we call upon all organizations regardless of race, creed or color to participate."

War Workers Bulk Of New Recruits

APR 7 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

APR 7 1943

By Phil Bart

The response to the National Party Building drive launched last Feb. 12, has already indicated the increased support which the Communist Party has won among the American people. More than 5,000 were recruited during the first five weeks nationally. The response to the drive in Michigan, a large industrial center, where hundreds joined during the first few weeks, demonstrated the readiness of industrial workers to come into the ranks of our Party.

AMONG NEGROES

Our party has long been recognized as the champion of the rights of workers as well as professionals of the Negro people. It is this section of the population which suffers the sting of Jim-Crow in every field of endeavor, which receives the one thousand mark is being reached.

These new members come from the very heart of American war industry—that section of the working class that is closest to war production. They are the men and women who realize the stake of our nation in this war for national liberation and produce the weapons to achieve victory. The party sections in South Chicago (steel), Yards (packing), Cicero and South Bend (auto) have

Reds Gain! Biggest in 14 Years When Foe Split
N. Y. Communist Vote

The Daily Worker today pointed out that the official Communist candidates for City Council received 107,000 first choice votes, the highest total ever given the Communist party in New York City.

of women can play
is calling for in-rights and that
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dustries. With an army Considerable progress has already
on, millions of whombeen made in drawing in of Negro
industry, new reservesworkers on war jobs. But all past
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reserves are in those practices nurtured over years are
have for one reason or not entirely cleared away overnight.

VITAL ROLE

kept out of industry.
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he Negro and women gro and white workers in these
e are new workers for shops and industries will play a
ich will at the same vital part in destroying these tend-
bring those who have encies. It will thereby help produce
en deprived of the op- and strengthen the labor movement
participate in produc- in overcoming such division. The
dustry. They will bring Communists' consistent fight for
to the labor move- Negro rights makes them the best
ll become a powerful champions in helping to popularize
degree that they are the life stream of the
ent, and to the extent these clear-cut policies. That this
barriers and prejudices is true was evidenced in the So-
journer Truth housing incident in
Detroit. The Communists were fore-
Communist Party, with most in the fight against Jim Crow
and years of parti- thereby not only winning the re-
e struggle for Negro

spect and confidence of the workers, but helping to smash the KKK fascist plot which would have been detrimental to the labor movement and the nation.

The entrance of millions of women into industry has added a new element to the working class. Millions of women now in industry have never worked before, at least not in basic industries. Least of all have they had any experience in the labor movement. The Communist Party has throughout its history championed the cause of complete equality for women. It is a basic tenet of the program of the Communist Party.

Women are entering industries that heretofore were exclusively men's domain. Who ever "dreamt" of a woman steel worker. Yet today, the largest steel mills in the country, the Gary works of the United States Steel Corporation employs ten per cent of its force—women. Almost 2,500 women steel workers in this one mill alone.

FEW WOMEN WORKERS

Only a negligible number of women in basic industry have been brought in during this drive. New friends must be won, new contacts made. This problem cries for solution.

Recruiting of women workers cannot be approached in a routine way. It must receive special attention. By involving those women now in the Communist Party who have entered industry, and also by mobilizing the men in basic industries will we begin to solve this problem. The recruiting drive cannot be considered entirely successful unless industrial women are brought into the Party. In this way we will help in involving women in union activities and thereby advance the war program.

A second shortcoming which deserves attention is the involvement of larger numbers of members in recruiting. The response of those doing recruiting is excellent. Not only are there a large number who have recruited five or ten new members, but the outstanding record was made by a Negro worker who has recruited twenty-five, and has pledged to double this figure. These recruits are his own fellow workers.

The National Party Building drive has shown the support of thousands of Americans to our Party. In the midst of this drive we must not only count our achievements, but improve our work. Consciousness of our weaknesses lays the basis for overcoming them.

On May 1, the Illinois-Indiana district will have added 1,200 new members. Our national organization will be stronger by nearly 15,000 more Americans. A stronger organization will be a vital force in the mobilization of the people behind the commander-in-chief for the opening of a second front and for victory in 1943.

Negro Areas Go Over Quota Goals

James W. Ford, member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, issued the following statement yesterday, reporting on the recruiting drive in Harlem and other Negro centers in America.

As a result of energetic political leadership and activity and also because of the prestige of the Communist Party and the loyalty of the people of the Harlem community to the patriotic war of our nation against the Axis, major successes have been achieved by the Upper Harlem Section of the Communist Party in the current Party Building Drive begun on Feb. 12.

The Upper Harlem Section achieved its objective of 300 new members on April 4, a month ahead of schedule. This represents a tremendous victory. It is an example for emulation by all the other banner sections of the Communist Party of New York State, and also by those sections where there is a concentration of Negro population in other parts of the country, such as the South Side Section of Chicago, the East Side Section of Detroit, the Cedar-Central Section of Cleveland, the Hill Section of Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and so on.

The Upper Harlem is headed toward another 150 new members by the conclusion of the Party Building Campaign on May 1, which will double its membership. The competition between the South Side Section of Chicago headed by Ray Hansborough, executive secretary, and the Upper Harlem Section headed by Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., takes on added interest for our entire Party from now until the conclusion of the drive.

The Cedar-Central Section of Cleveland completed its quota of 50 new Negro members on March 21. Congratulations are due to Detroit for achieving the goal of its quota of 200 Negro recruits on March 27, to New Jersey and to the Buffalo Sub-district of New York State for recruiting 50 per cent Negro members.

The National Committee of the Communist Party takes pride in extending congratulations to the Upper Harlem Section, its executive secretary, Benjamin J. Davis, Jr.; Audley Moore, section organizer; Elizabeth Baker, organizational secretary; Rose Gaulden. We take pride in the work of the section committee and the entire membership and the star recruiters among whom Charles Lohman is outstanding.

Let us all tirelessly work to complete all quotas and to prepare new norms to be achieved by May 1, for strengthening the unity of the nation for the defeat of the Axis powers and the opening of a Second Front.

445 Ohioans Join C. P. in One Week

By Sig. Wenger

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CLEVELAND, April 2.—The enlarged state committee meeting of the Communist Party of Ohio held here last week-end wound up the most successful week of the Party Building Campaign, with 146 new members recruited in the seventh week of the drive, bringing the total to 445 or 63½ per cent of the state's quota.

The conference provided guarantees that the quota would be overfulfilled by May 1 to enable the Ohio Party to "make our fullest contribution to defeating the conspirators in the State House and in Washington," in the words of State Secretary Arnold Johnson, who delivered the main report.

Comrade Johnson pointed out that the increasing weekly tempo of recruiting was the best guarantee that the Party would meet its critical responsibilities in the people's campaign for the immediate invasion of Europe, for labor unity and international labor solidarity, for a constructive win-the-war legislative program and squelching the defeatist conspiracy, which would spell defeat for America.

The report of Joseph Brandt, state organization secretary, analyzing in detail the achievements and weaknesses in the first seven weeks of the Party Building Compaign, noted that the recruitment of 115 new members in the city of Cleveland in the past week was an all-time record not only in Ohio but for any city of comparable size in the nation.

He pointed out that while Cleveland had reached 80 per cent of its quota of 345 by having recruited 277, only two out-of-town sections were ahead of the schedule: Toledo with 22 recruits or 63 per cent of its 35 quota, and Youngstown with 60 new members or 60 per cent.

Two Cleveland sections were congratulated for meeting their quotas and setting new goals for themselves: Cedar Central section in the heart of the Negro neighborhood with 57 recruits or 114 per cent and South East with one over its quota of 100.

The outstanding Party Builders were led by Betty of Youngstown with 18 plus five YCL recruits; Frieda Katz of Ward 30 Cleveland, 15; Ray of Cleveland Smelters Branch recruited 15 Negro workers; Ed Chaka, South East Section Organizer, 11; Margetich of Croatian Branch Cleveland, Edith of Ward 30 and Amos Murphy, Akron Section Organizer, with 10 each. Three of these leading recruiters are members of the State Committee.

Cleveland branches cited for outstanding work were:

Ward 30 recruited 30 new members, General Electric Branch of 10 members recruited 12, Slovak Branch of 10 members recruited 22, Cleveland Pneumatic Tool Branch, organized since the drive started, 6; U. S. Aluminum Branch 18, Mine, Mill and Smelter Branch 17, Ward 32 in the important auto territory of Collinwood 16, Mt. Pleasant in a concentrated Czech and Bohemian neighborhood, 16.

Out of town branches included: Ward 2 of Youngstown 18, McMecken (W. Va.) Branch 11, Central Branch, in a Negro neighborhood in Toledo, 10; Republic Steel Branch in Canton 8, Auto-Aircraft Branch in Columbus 9.

Second Front Harlem Rally To Hear Powell

Councilman Adam Clayton Powell has been added to the list of speakers for the Second Front Rally called by the Upper Harlem Section of the Communist Party for next Saturday, April 17, from 4 to 7 P. M. at 141st and Edgecombe Ave.

Other speakers are Dr. Lawrence Motley, National Council of Negro Youth; Dorothy K. Funn, Negro Labor Victory Committee; Ferdinand Smith, National Maritime Union; Daisy George, Local 6, Hotel and Club Employes Union; John Goodman, secretary-treasurer, Local 144, Hotel and Restaurant Employes Union, AFL; Rev. Ethelred Brown.

Additional speakers will be Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., executive secretary, Upper Harlem and chairman of the New York County Com-

52a-1943

COMMUNISTS

'I Want a Paper That Has Hope in It'--

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

Gurley Flynn Tells of Mobilization Day

JAN 28 1943

By Elizabeth Gurley Flynn

There are two blocks in the 90's on the upper West Side which are like a small island of Negro people with a Negro church in a sea of white people. Last Sunday I spent the afternoon in an apartment there. For years the whole neighborhood was on relief. Now they are slowly finding employment. But an air of poverty and distress prevails. I wondered how it happened that on just these two blocks poor Negro people have been living for a long time in the midst of what was once a prosperous white neighborhood.

It had its origin, I was told, in the fact that there were stables of the rich on one of these streets and so they "allowed" Negroes to live around them and in houses whose back yards adjoined the smelly stables, because the landlords could not get white tenants.

There is a Negro Episcopal Church on 99th St. and Central Park West—St. Jude's, which was built years ago and the minister's salary guaranteed, I understand, solely to prevent the Negro people going to the swanky big church around the corner. Last Sunday they had an overflow memorial meeting for Dr. Carver at this humble but proud little church, in which the whole neighborhood participated.

JAN 28 1943

Sunday I was in the midst of cheerful excited people coming and going. They were all members of the 7th and 9th A.D.'s Communist Party, engaged in a canvass of the neighborhood for subscriptions to the Sunday Worker. By the time I left they had collected eighty-two and all the returns were not yet reported. They stopped to chat and have a sandwich between trips. All who obtained subs were given a copy of Earl Browder's book "Victory — and After" which I autographed appropriately in green ink.

Of course all national backgrounds were represented, as is usual in a Communist Party group. The Negro comrades did the outstanding job, two beautiful women leading with eight and four apiece. There was an elderly Jewish woman who valiantly climbed many five story apartments. There was a visitor from California who volunteered to help and secured a sub, in the apartment house where another comrade lived—to the latter's embarrassment.

JAN 28 1943

There was a mother of a boy who died in Spain, and a very pretty excited young woman who had never canvassed before and enjoyed it tremendously. There was a motherly Irish woman and a highly intelligent young German refugee comrade, with a rather feverish look which told of suffering and mental anguish. There were two young women who had "a bone to pick with me" but didn't have time (over army wives, I suppose). "Goldie" the Section Organizer fed them, had words of advice and encouragement for all, kept her accounts straight and then cooked me a grand supper before I went to another meeting. (I hope all other members of the State Committee who went out Sunday on this assignment fared as well as I did)

The accounts of their reception varied from doormen on Central Park West who haughtily inquired "Are you expected?" to cups of tea —and stronger — offered by Irish workers. But to me the most significant and timely remark was that of a Negro woman. She took the subscription gladly and said: —"I am glad to do it. I want a paper that has **hope** in it. I am sick of hearing my men folks complain and despair about everything when they read the **'PM.'** I know the **Worker** will make them feel that there are things to do."

JAN 28 1943

I wished that hundreds of other honest people could grasp the truth so simply expressed by this woman. A paper that has **hope**, a paper that tells people **things** to do right now to help smash the Axis and win the people's victory—these are two outstanding virtues of our **Daily Worker.**

JAN 28 1943

Last Sunday demonstrated that hundreds of subs are ours for the asking. Let's go after them.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Free Gandhi, India Communists Appeal

FEB 19 1943

By Purna Chara Joshi
(General Secretary, Communist Party of India)

BOMBAY, India, Feb. 18.—Mohandas Gandhi's fast is a desperate call to the entire nation to save itself from utter extinction, says the resolution passed by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India at its session here beginning Feb. 14 and still continuing. The session is planned to conclude on Feb. 22.

The future of the nation depends on whether or not we get Gandhi out of prison, a summary of the resolution declares.

FEB 19 1943

The resolution denounces slanders against the All-India National Congress.

Exclusive

The anti-fascist stand of the Congress Party, the resolution declares, sweeps away every obstacle, ery prejudice, standing in the way of uniting the great patriotic parties of India in the interests of the peoples and of the United Nations.

Gandhi's letters (to the Viceroy) reveal a great urge of settlement of Congress-League differences. He opened wide the door for negotiations with the Moslem League and for joint negotiations with the government.

FEB 19 1943

The Viceroy's refusal, if continued, **will deepen the crisis all around.**

The Viceroy's attitude opens up a big opportunity for the entire nation. His die-hard position isolates the reactionaries from every section of public opinion here and abroad.

Despite all appearances, Congress-League unity and national unity, and the unity of our people with the peoples of the United Nations is nearer now.

FEB

RALLY FOR GANDHI'S RELEASE

All patriotic organizations and associations are rallying behind the demand for Gandhi's release. For instance, the Bengal legislative assembly has given its support to the demand, as well as spokesmen for the Moslem League, the Hindu Mahasabha, and others.

In this critical hour of our beloved motherland's destiny, the Communist Party of India appeals to every brother party, to every patriot, to

"Unite and win Ghandi's release and end the war crisis. In Ghandi's name, stop sabotage, smash the Fifth Column!"

FEB 19 1943

"We appeal to all Congress patriots," the resolution says, "to uphold Gandhi's call and work to put an end to sabotage and anarchy, to win the league members over to join you in the demand for Gandhi's release.

FEB 19 1943

"We appeal to all league patriots to recognize the biggest responsibility on their shoulders today. **Gandhi has disowned the campaign of sabotage and anarchy.** After this step, there are few barriers between the Congress and the eLague, and Gandhi — behind prison bars — stretches the 'Congress' hand of friendship across to the League.

"Only the prison bars stand in the way of a settlement between the League and their brothers in the Congress Party, between both and the National Government so ardently desired by the League."

VICEROY'S REJECTION

This is indeed the only impediment between the League and the satisfaction of its just self-determation demand.

FEB 19 1943

It does no good to look to the Viceroy for self-determination. He has already rejected it.

Failure to heed Gandhi's call to the League is tantamount to missing the biggest chance for winning freedom for the Moslem masses and winning national salvation.

Saving the Congress from being crushed is equal to saving the right of self-determination.

"The traditions and aspirations of the great League organization," the resolution says, addressing the League directly, "necessitate that you throw all your weight into the demand for Gandhi's release."

The Party appeals to the Hindu Mahasabha, to liberals and non-Party patriots, to peasants, workers and students organizations, in the interests of all, for unity in the winning of Gandhi's release and ending the war crisis.

FEB 19 1943

"All together," the Communist slogans say, "demand Gandhi's release!

"Forward to national unity for winning a national government for national defense and freedom!"

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Detroit Negro Rally Hears Ford

DETROIT, Feb. 25.—More than 100 residents of Detroit's eight-mile road Negro community gathered at the Detroit Urban League center last Wednesday evening to hear an address by James W. Ford, member of the National Committee of the Communist Party.

FEB 26 1943

Comparing the state of the community as he remembered it 10 years ago, when the workers in that area were unorganized and beset by the fears of poverty and unemployment, Ford commended the advances made.

FEB 26 1943

"The Negro people can hold its head high," Ford said. "Our Negro lads have gone back to Africa, not as the Bilbos and lynchers of the South would have had them go, as a 'solution' to the Negro 'problem,' but proudly, as liberators in the uniform of our great nation!"

In the discussion period following the lecture Ford commented on the role of the Soviet Union in the war and urged support of the Communist Party in its win-the-war policies.

FEB 26 1943

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

3 Communists Run for Office In St. Louis

MAR 21 1943

(Special to The Worker)

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—In an effort to sharpen and clarify the issues, to concentrate attention on winning the war and dispelling politics as usual, the Communist Party of St. Louis has entered three candidates in the Board of Aldermanic elections to be held April 6.

Both Webb, a ward, and Herman Ward, industry worker, have been elected Alderman from their wards and making the campaign for Alderman frombecause it felt that, while the people of St. Louis were genuinely interested in winning the war, neither Webb areterested in winning the war, neither it appears that one Republican or Democratic Party will beon the ticket may bevital Midwestern war production center.

MAR 21 1943

Candidates of the Party will beon the successful this year. Louis has never beforethe Republican or Democratic Party of St.Negroes. There has been a Negro elected to the Boardparties which are "politicking" as usual, the Communist Party of St. Louis, althoughusual, have brought the issues of Negroes. There has been a Negro elected to Aldermen in St. Louis, have brought the issues of the war home to the people in this Helen Musil for President of the Board of Aldermen; William Massingale, Alderman from the 4th ward, and Herman Webb, a wardates and making the campaign for Alderman frombecause it felt that, while the people of St. Louis were genuinely interested in winning the war, neither and Webb areterested in winning the war, neither Republican or Democratic Party will beon the ticket may bevital Midwestern war production center.

MAR 21 1943

If any of the other candidates entering candi- are willing to cooperate with the statement, the

Party in bringing the issues of the war—such as adequate housing and transportation, end of job discrimination against the Negroes, nurseries for mothers in war industry, fighting the high cost of living, and so on—home to the people, Communist Party candidates in their wards will withdraw from the race.

Symptomatic of the lack of interest on the part of the people of St. Louis in the politics as usual campaign being carried on by both the Democratic and Republican parties in the local elections is the fact that only some 40,000 votes were cast in the primaries last week.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

YCL to Keep Up Youth Vote Fight

MAR 29 1943

The Young Communist League at the next session of the State Legislature will toss the 18-year-olds' fight to vote right back into the lap of that august body. Carl Ross, New York chairman said last night in his summary address to the Fourth Annual Empire State Convention of the YCL.



CARL ROSS

Ross added:

"Getting the vote for 18-year-old men and women is the paramount issue facing American youth at this time. Realization of these young people's fight will serve the most democratic aspirations of youth. It will provide tremendous unity for victory."

MAR 29 1943

The convention before its adjournment late yesterday adopted a resolution embodying the delegates' intention to carry this fight to Albany, where the State Senate last week rejected a measure to lower the voting age from 21 to 18.

MAR 29 1943

SIX-POINT CREDO

Yesterday morning's session of the convention began with six simultaneous panel discussions: (1) Building Club Life for Victory. (2) The YCL and Production. (3) The YCL and the Community. (4) The YCL and Army Welfare. (6) The YCL and the struggle for Negro Rights. (6) Building the Review.

Reports on only one of these discussions was immediately available to the press. Reports on speeches by Mac Weiss, national president of the YCL, and Gil Green, executive secretary of the Communist Party of New York, are expected to be made available for subsequent editions of the Daily Worker.

Joe Johnstone in his address to the panel on production outlined a six-point YCL "credo" which defines the YCLer of today:

1. A good trade unionist—one who fights for increased production and for labor-management committees.

2. One who tries to eliminate absenteeism through finding its causes doing away with them by means of labor-management cooperation.

3. One who fights for jobs and for the upgrading of Negro workers.

4. One who cuts down on scrap and waste, mainly by keeping tools in good working condition.

5. One who masters one's machine and helps others to master theirs.

MAR 29 1943

800 DELEGATES

Johnstone is the 21-year-old son of the late Jack Johnstone, beloved member of the National Committee of the Communist Party of the United States. He is himself a worker in an essential war industry. He said:

MAR 2

"This 'credo' should become the basis for developing a Production-Soldier movement in each shop, in each shipyard, in each warehouse."

There were some 800 delegates present. Fraternal delegates from cooperating organizations were interested participants in panel discussions. More Negro members were present than ever previously.

A unique characteristic of the YCL panels was that each formed a complete "meeting" in itself—its own entertainment, including movies, singing, and the like.

Youth for Victory

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

APR 5 1943

By Jack Karen

Buffalo, N. Y.

In the first third of the recruiting drive, the Young Communist League in Buffalo has recruited 45 new members or 45 per cent of our quota of 100.

Our experience in the Fifth Ward of Buffalo among Negro youth is outstanding. At the beginning of the drive we had a branch of about 35 people in this community which was functioning very badly, had no executive committee and was unable to get more than five or six people to a meeting. In discussing the drive we felt that the best way to build the YCL in this community was to make our club the best fighter for Negro rights and for the winning of the war.

APR 5 1943

We therefore decided to organize a campaign against discrimination in the hiring and upgrading of Negro workers. We wrote to the director of the War Manpower Commission, Leroy Peterson. An appointment was granted. He promised us that if we would gather the evidence proving a policy of discrimination in any plant, that the War Manpower Commission would act on it. We decided to concentrate on Bell Aircraft and have got out a questionnaire to be filled out by Negro workers. We have about 75 filled out and expect to have about 200 within the next two weeks. We will present them to the War Manpower Commission.

We also got out an attractive leaflet to the community explaining the issue and have written letters to all the newspapers, which were printed.

30 RECRUITS

APR 5 1943

The effect this campaign has had on the branch has been remarkable. We have recruited more than 30 Negro comrades in the last four weeks. We had a club meeting of 25 comrades. We had two successful socials. The sale of our Weekly Review has gone up. And we now have a well-functioning Executive Committee of 12 comrades.

Our ace recruiters are Johnnie Lumpkin, who has recruited 15 so far during the course of the drive. Arlene recruited five people, Ida recruited four. There is a spirit and enthusiasm such as we have never had in the Club before and we are setting ourselves the goal of recruiting 100 Negro youth in the drive.

We have also found that through the organization of good social activities and the development of real friendship between our comrades that many young people have been attracted to our organization. Through this they also learn much about the need for Negro and white unity in the struggle for Negro rights and for Victory.

One other phase of our drive worth noting is the cooperation of the Party and the YCL in this drive. The Party helped us to recruit six YCLers and we have helped them to recruit 9 people to the Party.

APR 5 1943

By GUNHILD BJORKLUND

State Chairman of Minnesota YCL

As of March 29, we have recruited 55 members or 55 per cent of our June 1 quota. We can surpass our goal.

The club that has carried the ball to date is the Victory Youth Club in Minneapolis. Starting out with a quota of 35 new members, the branch recruited 26 new members in the first two weeks and upped its quota to 50. Five members were secured at a party of non-League Negro youth which was held in our clubroom. They were very much interested in our literature so we told them about the YCL. They joined on the spot.

Another outstanding example of recruiting has been a student club. There the club has doubled its membership since the drive started and has been able to mobilize the entire campus for a real win-the-war program. The campaigns that our YCL clubs have been active in are the Second Front, Mixed Units, Blood Donors for the Red Cross and protesting segregation of Negro blood, the 18-year-old vote and Victory Book Campaign.

"VICTORY AND AFTER"

An interesting feature of our recruiting is that we are signing up large numbers of youth between the ages of 14 to 21. We are holding discussion groups on Earl Browder's book, "Victory and After," for a number of our members and friends who are interested, using this as a basis for recruiting. We are also organizing a class for members and some of their friends who are swingshifters, before they go to work.

Every club has recruited in the drive, though some not as well as others. St. Paul is forging to the front in the competition and is going to be a serious bidder for honors. All in all, Minnesota is in there pitching with all the traditional vigor of our own "Golden Gophers" and is out to win the national championship and beat Connecticut.

* * *

APR 5 1943

RECRUITING DRIVE

March 1 to June 1, 1943

As of April 2, 1943

District	Quota	Recruits	Percentage
Alabama	30	—	—
California	500	115	23
Colorado	36	18	50
Connecticut	155	28	17
Eastern Pa.	500	125	25
Illinois-Indiana	400	218	55
Louisiana	25	—	—
Maryland	200	70	25
Massachusetts	200	93	46
Michigan	300	208	69
Minnesota	100	55	55
Missouri	100	12	12
New Jersey	300	201	67
New York	2500	811	32
Northwest	100	18	18
Ohio	500	126	25
Texas	30	5	17
Western Pa.	100	23	23
Wisconsin	65	10	15
Totals	6141	2136	35

Angelo Herndon Rejected for Army

World-Telegram

Angelo Herndon, former Negro member of the national committee of the Communist party, was free today to continue his work as editor of The Negro Quarterly, on which post he based an appeal last Aug. 30 against reclassification in the Selective Service from 2-A to 1-A.

New York, N. Y.

His appeal failed, but it was announced yesterday by the office of Col. Arthur V. McDermott, New York City Selective Service director, that Herndon, who is 30 and married, had failed to pass the physical examination he underwent Oct. 25.

Herndon, who is now classified 1-F, was set free April 26, 1937, by a 5 to 4 decision of the United States Supreme Court, which voided the Georgia antislave-insurrection act of 1871 under which he had been convicted and sentenced to the chain gang for a term of between 18 and 20 years. When released, he was national chairman of the Young Communist League.

Communists

Growth of Communist Party A Tribute to U. S. Workers

The Worker
New York, N. Y. 1943

By John Williamson

The evident success of the Party Building Campaign is a tribute to the growing political understanding of the American people, especially the workers and trade unionists. Despite the witch-hunting efforts of the Dies Committee and those few in the labor movement like Dubinsky, Woll, Ste. Marie and Carey who follow in Dies' footsteps, 9,000 Americans, the majority of them tradeunionists, have joined the Communist Party in the first eight weeks of the campaign.

The nation and the labor movement, in ever larger numbers, see the true role of the Communist Party as a consistent patriotic force helping to arouse and unite the people and especially the labor movement for policies that strengthen the nation.

WHAT NEW MEMBERS SAY

Typical of the hundreds of statements received from new members is the comment of a Chief Steward of Local 190 of the United Auto Workers in Detroit. He says:

"In joining the Communist Party I feel stronger, in that I will be better able to work in the union in which I have worked so hard to build. . . . In making the labor movement stronger and more alive to the everyday problems of the people, I feel that I am myself contributing to the ultimate defeat of Hitlerism."

Or take the statement of a new Party member, a steel worker and member of the United Steel Workers Union in Pennsylvania, who was drafted after joining the Party. At a farewell gathering he said in part:

"When I get into the Army, my job will be to knock off the enemy. I'll do that the same way I've been fighting at home. . . . We had a hell of a time to build the union. You guys got to keep these unions strong, keep our standards up and don't let anybody get away with anything underhand. . . . If you want to do right by me in the army, build a big Party.

These are typical of the workers who join the Communist Party today. They try to describe in their own words, the reasons and feelings that inspire them to join the Party and that arise from their experiences and understanding. Nine thousand of them—or 69 per cent of the goal set—have joined in the first eight weeks of the Campaign that ends on May 1st. They come from all states; from all industries and walks of life. Michigan, the main arsenal of our national war industry, has set the pace and surpassed its goal of 500 and is now striving for 700. Close behind is New Jersey with 345 recruits or 86 per cent. New York has topped the 4,000 mark this week or 80 per cent of its goal. Illinois and Ohio are on the heels of New York. In the Southland, Virginia, Lousiana and Texas leave the other states far behind. The Rocky Mountain states of Montana, Utah and Colorado, although small, are contributing their share. Still lagging and threatening the outcome of the campaign nationally are California, Seattle, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

OUTSTANDING FEATURES OF CAMPAIGN

In the course of the campaign a few things are outstanding. Most significant is the great number of Negroes, especially Negro industrial workers, joining the Party. Those section organizations outside of New York City who have already reached their goal, like South Chicago, Cicero, Packing and South Bend in Illinois-Indiana; Fords and Section 2 in Detroit; Camden and Newark in New Jersey; Toledo, Cedar Central and Southeast Cleveland in Ohio; Buffalo in upstate New York, are centers of heavy industry and strong trade unions. In these same centers, **The Worker** subscribers have been the single largest sources of new members, showing the correctness of building the press, securing renewals and having the Party surrounded by tens of thousands of politically informed workers.

In the remaining three weeks of the campaign, not only the balance of 4,000 but several thousand additional recruits can be won for the Communist Party. To achieve this necessitates the unleashing of all forces—members and branches—not yet active. Party building is not a campaign in itself. It only has strength and success when intimately connected with such work as:

Further and more effective fight for all aspects of political citizenship for our Party.

Increased mass activities, especially in the localities.

In the very center of these activities should be the activization of all labor and people's forces for the carrying through of the Casablanca Conference decisions and the immediate opening of a Second Front; united labor legislative activities; organizing the unorganized; united May Day actions; activity among the Negro people; combatting Black Market practices and enforcement of price control.

Improved attention to the ideological front and combatting and exposing all efforts to confuse the masses on Party policy.

NEXT TASKS

The following are tasks for every party organization that will help guarantee 100 per cent fulfillment of our total goal of 13,000 new party members by May 1.

(1) Visit 20,000 contacts on Sunday, April 18.

Many districts are mobilizing for a maximum turnout of all members to systematically visit all Worker and national group press readers, voters for Communist candidates, contacts listed by every member at beginning of campaign in answer to Comrade Browder's Letter to Each Member, collaborators in mass campaigns. The day should be well planned with reporting places for all members, contacts previously prepared according to locality and ready for assignments, renewal blanks for expirations and application blanks for new members, literature and a leading comrade to give an appropriate "send-off" to all assembled.

(2) Activize all members and branches.

Only a minority of the members have been involved so far in recruiting the nine thousand new members. It is obvious that a doubling of that number will itself bring many new members. The new members themselves, once convinced and activized are a special source of many new members.

(3) Increase Recruiting Among Basic Industry Workers.

In the remaining weeks of the campaign special attention should be given to improving the industrial composition of the new members. While there has been a definite improvement nationally there is still need of special recruiting activities among workers from such basic industries as steel, auto, mining, metal, shipbuilding, rubber and marine.

Another means of improving the industrial composition is by politically appreciating the significance of the mass entry of women into industry and the problems this creates for the labor movement. An influential Communist Party among women shop workers will help solve all these problems. So far this problem has not received adequate attention in the present recruiting campaign where only nine per cent of the recruits are shop women and too large a proportion of the women recruits are housewives.

(4) Organize a demonstrative affair to review the campaign.

These districts who set certain half-way points in the campaign with specific goals, have proven how correct this was. Michigan had its state convention, Illinois its Roll Call Day, New York its Party Builders' Congress. All districts should set a specific date with an appropriate gathering near the end of the campaign, towards which the activities of everything and everyone will be directed. Such public affairs with the active participation of all party builders, new members, branch and section leaders, will help dramatize fulfillment of the campaign goals.

(5) Absorption of new members.

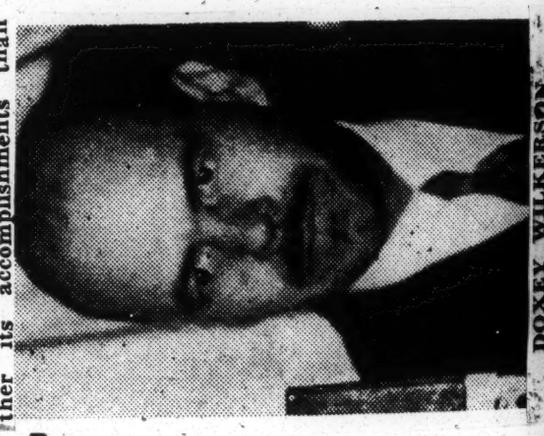
Already now the problem of absorption of new members should be on the agenda. Some of the new members have not even attended their branch meeting as yet. Some have not received the literature for new members. Some have never read the **Daily Worker.** Some have never seen the comrade who recruited them since they signed their application cards. All this should be changed.

The absorption and activizing of the new members is both a political and organizational task. Many branches and sections are in their majority new members. The minority of old members cannot hope to fit the majority of new members into the old pattern of the branch.

An understanding of these problems and fulfillment of these tasks will make it possible to bring into the ranks of the Communist Party new thousands of workers.

Prof. Doxey Wilkerson, C. P. Noted Educator, Joins

The Worker
New York, N. Y.
JUN 27 1943



DOXEY WILKERSON

(Special to The Worker)

WASHINGTON. — Professor Doxey Wilkerson who this week announced his resignation from Howard University and the Office of Price Administration told why he joined the Communist Party and accepted "permanent employment" in the education program of the Communist Party.

Dr. Wilkerson resigned his post of associate professor of education at Howard University and education specialist of the OPA.

A leading Negro educator, Dr. Wilkerson has been a member of the Howard University since 1935. Prof. Wilkerson's new work will be with the Communist Party, I believe my greatest civilian contribution to victory."

In an interview here, Dr. Wilkerson said his decision to join the Communist Party came after he passed the maximum military service age of 38 several weeks ago. This action, he declared, was prompted by the realization that "the home front is far more vulnerable than the military front. In our country, the war effort of the masses of American people.

"In my opinion, there is no organization in the country more thoroughly committed to this task or better equipped to further its accomplishments than

Dr. Wilkerson's letter of resignation from Professor Howard University, in part: said, in part:

"The pro-Axis defeatist forces in our country, at this crucial stage of the war, are doing all in their power to create division within our nation and among the United Nations, to sabotage the war effort of our Government, and thus to give substantial aid to our enemies.

"These attacks can be blocked through the rapid and

HOME FRONT FIGHT CRITICAL

the Communist Party of the United States."

Dr. Wilkerson said that he has always "been frank and outspoken" in his enthusiasm for socialism, which he regards as "the fundamental and necessary cure for the major social problems which confront our nation and the world.

Although stating that during this period "the struggle for socialism must be subordinated to the immediate and paramount tasks of victory in the war," he declared "it is but natural that I should some day seek affiliation with the Communist Party, which I regard as the only American party whose principles and program will ultimately convince the American people that the approach to complete democracy must be through the socialist organization of our society."

OUTSTANDING CAREER

A native of Kansas City, Kan., Dr. Wilkerson has had an outstanding career in the professional and trade union worlds. Before coming to Howard University, he was professor of secondary education and principal of the high school at Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia. Several years ago he served as research associate of the President's Advisory Committee on Education, and later as research associate of the Carnegie Corporation's study of "The Negro in America." He was a member of the national advisory committee of the WPA education program, and is now a member of the control committee of the secondary school study of the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools for Negroes.

Professor Wilkerson's book, **Special Problems of Negro Education,** was published in 1939 by the Government Printing Office. He is also co-author, with J. S. Roucke and others, of **Sociological Foundations of Education,** published by the Crowell Company, having contributed the Chapter on "Education and Social Problems."

He is author of numerous articles and monographs, and is a member of the editorial staff of the **Journal of Negro Education.** His professional specialties are listed in **Leaders in Education,** biographical dictionary published by Science Press, as public education for Negroes; the vocational education and guidance of Negroes; education for social reconstruction."

From 1937 to 1940 Professor Wilkerson was national vice president of the American Federation of Teachers, and for several years has served as president of the Howard Teachers Union, Local 440, AFT, AFL. During his period of employment with OPA he was active in the educational program of the United Federal Workers, Local 203, CIO. One week ago he was reelected vice president of the International Labor Defense.

JUN 27 1943

Angelo Herndon Again

ANGELO HERNDON is in the news again.

Not from Atlanta nor Georgia, however, we are pleased to explain. His trouble is with his draft board in New York City. Angelo has been put in Class A-1, much to the indignation of his fellow travelers of the Communist Party. Angelo and his fellow hewers to the party line insist that he should be deferred because of his essential labors for national defense as an "editor" of a publication called *The Negro Quarterly.* He already had received one or two deferments on that ground but the Selective Service director for New York City, Colonel Arthur D. McDermott, has stepped in and personally appealed the latest deferment.

Herndon came to Atlanta from Cincinnati as a Communist organizer in 1932. He was then only 20 years of age and equipped with little more than a common school education, but he achieved somehow or other a considerable and disturbing influence among members of his race. In the spring of that baneful year he organized a march of about 1,000 Negro families to the Court House, demanding relief. The demonstration, which held potentialities of grave disorder, was quelled by firm but peaceable action by the police authorities. Investigation revealed his activities as a subversive agent; in his room were found large quantities of communistic "literature."

He was indicted by the Fulton Grand Jury under the so-called Insurrection Statute which had been enacted by Georgia during Reconstruction days and which held:

> Any attempt, by persuasion or otherwise, to induce others to join in any combined resistance to the lawful authority of the state shall constitute an attempt to incite insurrection.

The punishment prescribed is death; or, if the jury recommended to mercy, confinement in the penitentiary for five to 20 years.

Herndon frankly admitted to the trial jury that he was a Communist and a zealous propagandist but said he went no further than to preach his faith. After a trial lasting several days, in which he was defended by two Negro lawyers of Atlanta, he was found guilty with recommendation. The jury fixed the penalty at 18 to 20 years. Appeal was taken and the State Supreme Court confirmed the verdict.

One of the Northern civil liberties organizations then entered the case, with Whitney North Seymour, who had been assistant attorney general in the Hoover administration, as counsel. He appealed to the United States Supreme Court, arguing that the Georgia statute was unconstitutional as an infringement of freedom of speech and assembly. The court dismissed the appeal on a technical ground.

Then the case started all over again and in December, 1936, Judge Hugh Dorsey in Fulton Superior Court granted a habeas corpus plea, ruling that the statute was too vague to set an ascertainable standard of guilt. By a 5-to-4 vote in April, 1937, the United States Supreme Court sustained that opinion, holding the Georgia law to be unconstitutional. In the majority opinion, Justice Roberts said:

> The power of a state to abridge freedom of speech and of assembly is the exception rather than the rule and the penalizing even of utterances of a defined character must find its justification in a reasonable apprehension of danger to organized government.

The Herndon case thus became what may be called a *cause celebre.* It was hailed generally as a confirmation of civil liberty to go as far as it likes, just so it doesn't create what Mr. Justice Holmes in the Schenck case had called "a clear and present danger" to government. Proximity and degree are the factors that determine whether opposition to the government is licensed speech or insurrection.

Vindicated as he was by the Supreme Court of the United States, Herndon returns to the news six years later. It is significant that he is trying to avoid the service of his country.

It would be interesting, and might be illuminating, to know the unknowable: Has the influence of this professional agitator been for the peace and security and progress of his race, or have his agitations been as subversive of the best interest of Negroes, as they have sought to be of the best interests of the nation?

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Elks Back Cacchione

Added to the growing list of en-
Norman Johns
dorsements accorded Peter V. Cac-
didate for the
chione, Brooklyn Communist candi-
gro
date for re-election to the City
elections.

Communists Nominate Council Candidates

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

JUN 28 1943

Communists in three New York counties, meeting in separate conventions, mapped steps to organize a coalition of all patriotic elements in the respective counties for the election of a win-the-war City Council in the fall elections and nominated their own Councilmanic candidates.

Manhattan Communists chos
Carl Brodsky as their standar
bearer. Paul Crosbie was nomina
ed in Queens, and Isidore Begun
was the choice of the Bronx con
vention. All three are veteran lead
ers of the labor and progressive
movement in New York, and have
outstanding records in the promo
tion of war activity in the city.

The Kings County Communist
convention was held last month,
and nominated Councilman Peter
V. Cacchione for re-election.

SCORE CONGRESS ACTION

JUN 28 1943

Leaders and delegates to all three gatherings were particularly incensed at the actions of Congress in passing the Smith-Connally anti-labor measure, in cutting OPA and in eliminating subsidies for price roll-back.

In the last two Fridays Hitler won his biggest victories in 1943, said Edward Bender, executive secretary of the New York County Committee, in his report to that county's convention. Bender was referring to the OPA and Smith-Connally votes in Congress.

Absentee Congressmen were strongly criticized by the New York and Bronx meetings as "deserters from their posts." Bronx delegates decided to send a strongly worded wire to Representative Buckley telling him to stop being Bronx's "absentee Congressman."

JUN 28 1943

Center of discussion in all three conventions was the danger created in the respective counties by the inciters of race hatred. In Bronx and in Queens delegates called on Borough Presidents Lyons and Burke respectively to intitiate a conference of all major groups in their boroughs which would act to prevent any incitement against the Negro people, and which would block anti-Semitic agitation.

In Manhattan, delegates elected a committee to see Mayor LaGuardia on the problem, and to present him with a petition bearing several thousand signatures requesting that the Board of Estimate reconsider the Stuyvesant Town housing project.

JUN 28 1943

JIM CROW PROJECT

The project, sponsored by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. with city cooperation, has been passed on by the Board despite the avowed intentions of the company to discriminate against Negro tenants. Such discrimination, said Manhattan Communists, whets the appetites of the "hate peddlers" who are attempting to incite group against group in an effort to destroy the nation's war unity.

All three gatherings condemned Smith-Connally bill. The repeal of the activities of John L. Lewis the JUN 28 1943 whom they labelled the leading defeatist agent within the labor movement. Lewis, they charged, was have exercised considerable influ-

Discussion at the gatherings re-
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52a-1943
The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Harlem and South Side Begin Recruiting Race

MAR 17 1943

Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., chairman of the New York County and executive secretary of the Upper Harlem section of the Communist Party, yesterday made public the terms of a recruiting competition agreed upon between the Upper Harlem and the Chicago South Side sections of Communist Party.

The terms are preceded by a preamble, reading:

"We of the South Side (Chicago) and the Upper Harlem (N. Y.) sections of the Communist Party realize fully the importance of the National Party Building Drive to recruit 15,000 new members as a means of fulfilling our Party's responsibility in helping to strengthen national unity.

"We realize fully our Party responsibility in helping to forge ever stronger the alliance of the United Nations, to speed opening of a land front in Western Europe, to establish a centralized war economy in our country to double production in 1943, to contribute to labor unity and the organization of the unorganized, to abolish the poll tax and to carry out the many other tasks facing labor and the nation.

MAR 17 1943

"We further realize the importance of increasing the membership of the Communist Party in the two largest Negro communities of our country, as a means of intensifying the fight for full equality of the Negro people. The South Side wholeheartedly accepts the challenge of socialist competition extended by the Upper Harlem section of the Communist Party of New York City.

"We agree upon the following terms of competition:

"1—The South Side section accepts the challenge to recruit more new members than the Upper Harlem section.

MAR 17 1943

"2—Each section agrees to fulfill at least 50 per cent of its quota by April 1, 1943.

"3—The competition is to be concluded on May 1, 1943.

"4—The winning section is to have the privilege of naming a representative of the second best section to visit the winner for the purpose of speaking at mass meetings, etc., within 60 days after the close of the competition. All expenses of this trip are to be the obligation of the second best section."

MAR 17 1943

The pact is signed by Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., executive secretary, Upper Harlem Section, and Ray Hansborough, executive secretary, South Side Section.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Rally to Hit Newark Utility Negro Ban

MAR 22 1943

NEWARK, March 20.—The Communist Party of Newark will hold a mass protest meeting Tuesday night, March 30 at 190 Belmont Ave., here to protest against the policy of Public Service in refusing to hire Negro people.

Public Services' role in getting war workers to and from their jobs is an indispensable part of our war activity, as Newark is a vital center of war production. Public Service is facing a manpower shortage which, if not met, may be critical. Many previously employed by Public Service as Bus drivers are now in the armed forces of our country. The situation is worsened by the unpatriotic practice of Public Service by refusing to hire Negroes. This has resulted in a shortage of bus service.

The speakers at this meeting will be Martha Stone, County Secretary of the Communist Party, Reverend Brown and other leading people in the Negro Community. A representative of the Trade Unions will also be present.

MAR 22 1943

The Communist Party is circulating petitions which will be collected at this meeting. Arrangements have been made for a committee to bring these petitions to the Public Service

1300 New Yorkers Join CP in Single Week

APR 11 1943

The Worker, New York, N.Y.

Inspiring Party Builders Congress Spurs Drive

APR 11 1943
The Worker, N.Y., N.Y.

New York State Communist leaders attribute the remarkable record made in recruiting of new members last week to the Party Builders Congress, held last Sunday afternoon at Manhattan Center.

Close to 1,300 members were recruited in New York state, an all-time high for membership increase in a single week. This brought the total for the state in the first two months of the current drive to 4,034, which is 80 per cent of the 5,000 goal to be attained by May 1 when the drive closes.

For weeks state leaders prepared the membership for the Congress. The objective set by the date of the Congress was 65 per cent of the goal. Competitive forms were developed, enthusiasm reached a high pitch.

The result was that the 65 per cent goal was exceeded by 15 per cent. State leaders confess that they underestimated the recruiting possibilities and the extent to which the drive has taken hold among the members. They do not appear crestfallen because of their inaccurate estim

APR 11 1943

GOOD POSSIBILITIES

As Gilbert Green, state secretary said in his address to the Congress the results have shown that the national committee of the Communist Party was right when it proposed the drive and the seemingly high goal of 13,000 new members nationally at its meeting last December. The national committee action was taken as a result of canvassing the political setup in the nation, and the part the Communists were playing in furthering the war effort on the production and political fronts. This war role of the Communists was elaborated on at the Congress in an address by William Z. Foster, national chairman of the Communist Party.

In New York, the Congress was planned as a sort of midpoint in the drive. The 750 delegates brought with them to the Congress their sense of achievement, all their enthusiasm and their recognition that they were making history. This made the gathering a spirited, inspiring and memorable affair. Many of the 1,000 and more who attended as visitors grasped for the first time the political significance of the drive and became imbued with its spirit.

A Negro seaman, reporting for the seamen's branch, told the Congress that 147 Communist seamen had lost their lives as a result of enemy action. To that branch the drive had a special significance, he said. They must replace those members with new ones, and strengthen the Party because of the great responsibility they have to the war effort.

Charles Loman, leader of the railroad branch in Upper Harlem, told the delegates how a railroad worker who was a contact but was always on the road was recruited during a 10 minute stopover at Penn Station in the wee hours of the morning. Loman's branch has more than doubled its quota, while Loman and his wife, Frances, recruited between them 30 members.

100 FROM HARLEM

Perhaps the high point in the Congress came when a group of members from Upper Harlem walked in with 100 new membership cards, putting the section over the top with 302 new members of a quota of 300. The bulk of the new members are Negro workers.

Among the methods described was the Harlem method of family recruiting. When a new member is gotten, his whole family is carefully examined with him for possibilities. Thus, Martha Wilson, of Harlem, brought in with her 10 relatives and friends. Two of her recruits have already recruited six others.

APR 11 1943

Secretary Green, in his address, stressed the use of **The Worker** in recruiting. He said that experience has indicated that subscribers to **The Worker** are an excellent source of new recruits.

Another feature of the drive was the large number of mass meetings held. This was dramatized at the Congress in the competition between Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and Peter V. Cacchione, the two ace speakers at mass meetings. Miss Flynn has thus far recruited 322 new members at meetings, while the Cacchione figure is 320. They're competing for the title of recruiting champion of the state organization.

APR 11 1943

WEAK SECTORS

While the drive thus far has been highly successful from the point of view of spirit and numbers recruited, a weakness has been the failure to make an appreciable dent in the main industries in the city. The only industrial branch to go over the top so far is the food section. Such industries as metal, transportation industries, aircraft are lagging, with the exception of the Buffalo area where there have been outstanding results.

State leaders indicate that for the remainder of the drive efforts will be concentrated on bringing each branch over the top, and on involving the largest possible section of the membership. Only a minority of members of the party have actually taken part in the drive thus far.

A further problem is the integration into the organization of those members recruited. This is a complex problem, state leaders feel, that can be handled only through proper branch organization and activity. The new party member must, they say, find in the activity of the branch the confirmation that the Communist Party is playing a leading part in the promotion of the war effort and in the struggle for the execution of an all-out war policy by the nation.

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Youth for Victory

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
APR 19 1943

By Selma Weiss
Maryland-Washington District

We felt confident in setting the goal of 400 members by June because of our past experiences. And the response to this idea by the League members was overwhelmingly full of enthusiasm, eagerness and determination to do the job and do it well. The acceptance of the idea is being proven in results. Our experience in the Frederick Douglass Club of Baltimore. The effect this campaign has had on the branch is remarkable. All of the activities of the branch brought results and taught the youth of the community the strength of united effort in the YCL which made itself a part of the community

batting those who are holding back the war effort in war production.
As a result this branch has given comrades such Maryland-District of Columbia District has not
as George, who recruited 30 members in the last challenged any other district. But other districts
drive, Ruth and Selma O'Har, the former branch beware—we're out to win this time!
president, to other communities to help establish
League Clubs. New members recruited in the past
drive are now in leadership of the Frederick Doug-
lass Club.

APR 19 1943

The Recruiting Drive

—The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

New Jersey in 2nd Place; Many Recruits Are Negroes

MAR 31 1943

New Jersey is running next to Michigan in the Communist Party recruiting drive.

Reports compiled up to March 20 show that the New Jersey district has recruited 233 new members of its quota of 400, or 58 per cent.

Fifty-one per cent of the recruits were Negroes; 41 per cent women.

Sixty-two per cent were industrial workers.

Forty-one new members were metal workers; 26 shipyard workers.

At a state conference on Party building, just held, the New Jersey district promises to complete its quota of 400 by April 9.

PLEDGE TO FOSTER

The promise was made in the following letter to William Z. Foster, chairman, and Earl Browder, general secretary of the Communist Party, from William Norman, state secretary in Newark:

"Our state conference, held on Sunday, March 21, attended by some 200 delegates from the State of New Jersey and representing a cross-section of the working class and people of this state, has requested that we convey to you our unanimous pledge to complete our Party Building Drive goal by April 9.

"The conference registered the firm belief that the people recognize our Party to be a decisive force in welding national unity for victory, in exposing the fifth column and the defeatists, in establishing a centralized war economy for doubling our production and in speeding the opening of a second front in Europe.

"Our conference was rich in experiences, reflecting the many-sided tasks which our Party, together with labor and all win-the-war forces are carrying out to speed victory in 1943.

"At the time of our conference, we had achieved 60 per cent of our goal of 400 new members by May 1st. What makes us confident of completing our objectives by April 9, is the ideological mobilization and enthusiasm displayed by the conference, individually and collectively, for the one task that will enable us to make ever greater contributions to our war effort.

"We will establish the guarantees to keep our pledge to you, Comrades Foster and Browder, and to our National Committee.

MAR 31 1943

Similar experiences are taking place in the 11th Ward where Ruth together with other members of the Harriet Tubman Club seem to be running neck and neck with the Carver Club in the League Building Drive. Their new members sell as many as 30 Reviews every Sunday morning and have developed a steady readers' route. They say that they like to sell the Review because it means new members for the YCL. Most of the new members recruited by the Club are youth in industry, mainly from the shipyards and aircraft. One experience which opens great possibilities for the Tubman Club is the fact that three of the fellows who joined are working toward affiliating a Club of 37 other youth to the YCL.

In accomplishing the establishment of two new clubs in Baltimore, the Communist Party has been of tremendous help and has made an outstanding contribution to the youth of our city. It was through the consistent work of leading Party comrades that we were able to make such excellent contacts. The concrete plan for the Party to recruit 100 young people in the course of the drive got off to a good start with 14 recruits already in.

APR 19 1943

The Abe Lincoln Club of East Baltimore was somewhat slow in starting. But based upon performances of the past week the other clubs had better watch out. This club is situated in the heart of one of the most important communities in Baltimore. The population consists mainly of Italian, Irish, women Irish and Slavish workers, who are found in the most important key industries. After weeks of work and effort to sell the Review and become recognized in the community we met with success in the Italian community. Two comrades sold 17 Reviews and got orders for a party to several youth. The affair which was a joint undertaking by the Communist Party and the Club was of tremendous success. Over-flowing people attended, the overwhelming number being young people. Three girls joined, all of whom are

MAR 31 1943

One of the outstanding branches in the drive to date is the Robert Brooks Club, with 31 new members to its credit. As part of their initiation to the club, new members were asked why they joined the YCL. The answers were carefully noted by the branch leadership, especially as an indication of what our new friends expect from the Young Communist League. These answers were typical: "I joined because the club is helping to win the war—I joined because I play a sax and get a chance to take part in programs in the YCL—I joined because I want to learn." The varied reasons given especially called to our attention the need for further developing an all-rounded program of activities, which would answer all of these needs.

APR 19 1943

It was clear that many of the new members joined with the confident belief that the YCL could provide them with the answers to many problems. An interesting instance was shown in the first session of a discussion group with mostly new members participating. Just as one of our older members was preparing to open the discussion with a short talk, a new member took the initiative, saying: "Well, we're here for a discussion. I want to begin by giving my ideas on the war." He did so, and immediately started a lively exchange of opinions. Special interest was shown in an explanation of the role of labor unions in combatting discrimination.

Doxey Wilkerson Now In CP Education Dept.

People's Voice
New York City

WASHINGTON—Doxey A. Wilkerson, professor of education at Howard University since 1935, and education specialist in the Office of Price Administration, announced his resignation from Howard last Saturday to accept permanent employment in the education program of the Communist Party of the United States.

Wilkerson, who has been on leave from Howard serving in the OPA Department of Information for the past year, declared that he had joined the Communist Party at this time because he was convinced that was the best way to devote his maximum efforts as a civilian to the promotion of the nation's war effort.

JUN 2 1943

From 1937 to 1940, Wilkerson was the National Vice-President of the American Federation of Teachers and the Communist Party, who declared that he had been "frank and outspoken in his enthusiasm for Socialism, and his natural affiliation with the Negro people."

JUN 2 1943

During his service with the OPA, he has been on the faculty of Howard University since 1935, he also served as associate professor of education and as associate chairman of the department there. He was the only American in 1939.

His new work will be with the Maryland District of the Columbia District of the CP.

His book, "Special Problems of the Negro Education," was published by the Government Printing Office in 1939.

A member of the faculty of Howard University since 1935, he also ultimately convince the people the approach to democracy must be realistic organization of education. He was affiliated with absence to serve as education convictions were out-favor of communism.

Wilkerson, who has been given a year's leave of fer of the university to extend his

Washington, D. C. Wilkerson Quits OPA to Serve Communist Party

Doxey A. Wilkerson, former associate professor at Howard University, resigned his position as education specialist with OPA yesterday to become a full-time Communist Party organizer here and in Baltimore.

Remaining in OPA a few weeks after he passed his thirty-eighth birthday, he had waited until he passed the present maximum age limit for military service before resigning to join and seek employment in Baltimore.

Outspoken in Views

Even before he was out-spoken" in his expressed his views on Communism, said it was the only way to achieve democracy and peace.

Wilkerson joined the party yesterday morning and held a press conference, attended by one reporter, at the party offices on Ninth Street.

James L. Branca, local chairman, also was present.

His affiliation with the Communist Party is of interest in view of his previous employment by OPA, whose policies, he indicated yesterday, he would continue to further as a Communist lecturer.

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52a-1943
The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

PARTY EDUCATION

April 10, 1943

We met a seaman comrade who has just returned from his battlefront--a sea-voyage. Naturally, we exchanged ideas about the present Party Recruiting Drive. We were impressed with his apt characterization of the progress of the Drive: "When I left two months ago some branch organizers were revising their recruiting quotas downward. Now, upon my return, the most pleasant feeling I have experienced was to watch the same branch organizers revise their recruiting quotas upwards." April 10, 1943

In many respects the very purpose of the drive is to establish the political fact that "it can be done." The response of the workers to join the Party has demonstrated the most important fact that the mass policy of the Communist Party is correct and that sections of public opinion are beginning to appreciate the Communist Party as a conscious force in the war effort. Herein lies the key to the success of the Recruiting Drive; herein lies the foundation for the building up of conviction and sentiment that "America has need of a Communist Party."

The successful completion of the Drive depends on how the individual branch of the Party will improve its activity as the carrier and fighter for the mass policies of the Party, as well as upon the ideological mobilization of the Party branch for an understanding of the mass policies of the Party. It is through the improved activities of the branch that we shall be able to establish "political citizenship" for our Party.

There can be no effective mass activities without the political organizational building of the Communist Party. No matter how one is active in a mass organization, no matter how well a comrade is recognized as a mass figure, unless he personally builds the Communist Party, his mass activity, his political effectiveness among the masses will remain limited. Wherever comrades have related their mass activities to Party recruiting, the Drive has been conducted more energetically and with better results. The mass propaganda activities in the course of the present Recruiting Drive have more than ever before emphasized the close relationship between Communist mass policy and our ideological front.

We have dealt here with some of the lessons of the Recruiting Drive since the last few weeks of the drive will decide the successful completion of this historic drive of our Party. 4-10-43

* * *

The test of the success of the drive still lies ahead. All depends on whether we shall learn to absorb and keep the new members. Not until then have we the right to speak of a successful completion of the drive.

We have as yet not sufficiently learned that recruiting and keeping the new members is a simultaneous process. This problem Communist was again brought home to us when we heard a section leader declare: "As soon as the pressure on recruiting eases, we will turn to the problem of keeping the new members." Such an approach might jeopardize the whole Recruiting Drive. By the end of the drive we may be confronted with the fact that some who have been recruited have not been attached and kept in the Party.

We believe that the New York State Committee is wisely considering the setting up of a special State New Members' Committee. We are not in a position to say whether such state committees should be set up in each state organization. But the approach of the New York comrades emphasizes the urgency of the issue of keeping the newly recruited members. The same political energy and personal responsibility with which the recruiting of new members was organized, must be applied to the keeping and the training of new members. 4-10-43

Just as we have checked from day to day, from meeting to meeting, on individual recruiting, so must we check on the assignment and the manner in which new members are placed in a branch. All depends on the political quality of the branch life. Leading Party comrades, trained propagandists, who are now active in recruiting, must also become active in developing rich branch life, in bringing together the mass policies of the Party with its ideology and history. The responsibility of the Party comrade who has recruited increases with his task of keeping the new members. Training to read the Daily Worker and some of our literature should be integrated with all the problems pertaining to the keeping of new members. Since the branch is the key to the keeping of new members the state organization should consider that its first personnel responsibility is the training of branch leaders.

We discussed with a comrade who joined the Party a year ago some of his experiences as a new member. In a telling statement he dramatized the problem of new members when he declared: "I joined the Communist Party to get some working class education. When I got into the branch, it was all work and no education." No, he did not mind work, but he objected to "work without education." It is well that we keep in mind the experience of this comrade as we discuss the issue of keeping and training new members.

APR 10 1943

The results of the Recruiting Drive to date show an excellent response on the part of Negro workers. This is eloquent testimony of the correctness of our mass policy among the Negro people. There is a direct relationship between the recruiting figures among the Negro people and the strengthening of the national liberation aspects of our Negro mass policy as developed by Comrade Browder in his book **Victory—and After.**

The greatsst test of the Recruiting Drive is the ability to keep the newly recruited Negro workers. In addition to the general problem of keeping new members which applies to the Negro recruits as well, special attention, however, must be paid to the national liberation aspects and traditions of the Negro people as a political necessity in the training and keeping of Negro members. Communist branches functioning in Negro communities must in form and in content live with the national cultural life of the Negro community. APR 10 1943

The main thoughts we should like to leave with the readers of today's column are: (a) The success of the drive will depend on and should be judged by our ability to keep the new members. (b) The same political energy with which the recruiting of new members was organized must be applied to the keeping and the training of new members.

SAM DON.

Doxey Wilkerson Quits Howard U., Joins 'Red' Staff

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

JUN 2 1943

WASHINGTON—(SNS)—Declaring his conviction that the best way "to devote my maximum efforts as a civilian to the promotion of our nation's war effort" is through "helping to strengthen the home front against the ever-mounting attacks of pro-Axis defeatist forces in our country," Professor Doxey A. Wilkerson Sunday announced his resignation as Associate Professor of Education, Howard University, and as Education, Howard University, and as Education Specialist, Office of Price Administration, in order to accept "permanent employment" in the education program of the Communist Party of the United States.

Professor Wilkerson has been a member of the Education Faculty of Howard University since 1935. During the past year he has been on leave from the University serving as Education Specialist in the OPA Department of Information. His new work will be with the Maryland-District of Columbia District of the Communist Party. Mr. Wilkerson took out membership in the Party this morning.

"HOME FIGHT CRUCIAL"

In an interview here today, Professor Wilkerson stated that his decision to join and accept employment with the Communist Party came after he passed the maximum military service age of 38 several weeks ago. This action, he declared, was prompted by the realization that "the home front is far more vulnerable than the military front. In promoting the political education of the people, through the program of the Communist Party, I believe I can make my greatest civilian contribution to victory."

Professor Wilkerson's letter of resignation from Howard University stated, in part: The "pro-Axis defeatist forces in our country, at this crucial stage of the war, are doing all in their power to create division within our nation and among the United Nations, to sabotage the war effort of our Government, and thus to give substantial aid to our enemies. These attacks can be blocked only through the rapid and effective political education of the masses of American people. In my opinion, there is no organization in the country more thoroughly committed to this task or better equipped to further its accomplishment than the Communist Party of the United States." He added, during the interview, "The present role of the Party is to put aside whatever differences there may be with other groups working for victory in this war. This is a sound and necessary position in our national welfare is to be protected."

SOCIALISM A MOTIVE

Professor Wilkerson said that he has always 'been frank and outspoken" in his enthusiasm for socialism, which he regards as "the fundamental and necessary cure for the major social problems which confront our nation and the world. Although stating that during this period "the struggle for socialism must be subordinated to the immediate and paramount tasks of victory in the war," he declared: "It is but natural that I should some day seek affiliation with the Communist Party, which I regard as the only American party whose principles and program will ultimately convince the American people that the approach to complete democracy must be through the socialist organization of our society."

His eagerness to be of maximum service as a civilian in the war effort, Mr. Wilkerson said, 'serves now but to reinforce a long-time conviction which, in itself, would certainly have led me at some time to join the Communist Party."

OUTSTANDING CAREER

A native of Kansas City, Kansas, Professor Wilkerson has had an outstanding career in the professional and trade-union worlds. Before coming to Howard University, he was Professor of Secondary Education and Principal of the High School at Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia. Several years ago he served as Research Associate of the President's Advisory Committee on Education, and later as Research Associate of the Carnegie Corporation's study of "The Negro in America." He was a member of the National Advisory Comm., of the WPA Education Program, and is now a member of the Control Committee of the Secondary School Study of the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools for Negroes.

Professor Wilkerson's book, SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF NEGRO EDUCATION, was published in 1939 by the Government Printing Office. He is also co-author, with J. S. Bouck and others, of SOCIOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS OF EDUCATION, published by the Crowell Company, having contributed the Chapter on "Education and Social Problems."

He is author of numerous articles and monographs, and is a member of the Editorial Staff of the Journal of Negro Education. His professional specialties are listed by LEADERS OF EDUCATION, biographical dictionary published by Science Press, as "Public Education for Negroes; the vocational education and guidance of Negroes; education for social reconstruction."

From 1937 to 1940 Professor Wilkerson was National Vice-president of the American Federal of Teachers, and for several years has served as President of the Howard Teachers Union, Local 440, A. F. T. —A. F. of L. During his period of employment with OPA, he was active in the educational program of the United Federal Workers of America, Local 203-CIO. One week ago he was re-elected Vice-President of the International Labor Defense. In Washington, he has long been a militant leader in a variety of progressive movements, especially in campaigns for full citizenship rights for the Negro people.

JUN 24 1943

Hartford Paper Prints Protest by Communists

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

JUN 24 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

HARTFORD, Conn., Aug. 11.—The Hartford Times gives nearly a column to a letter from the Hartford Communist Party, protesting against an editorial, which appeared in that paper on racial disturbances in the United States.

The Hartford Times' editorial blamed the anti-Negro riots largely on "agitators," who urge "equality as a means of strengthening organizations, with which they are connected."

In a sharp reply, signed by Donald C. Wheeldin, chairman of the Third Ward Club of the Communist Party, and Roy A. Leib, secretary, the Communist Party of Hartford, the Party, says:

"In our opinion, the editorial has failed miserably . . . thereby feeding confusion, insulting the Negro people and giving comfort to un-American groups like the KKK and others whose program includes the smashing of unity of the American people behind President Roosevelt and his win-the-war policy."

"As for the Communists, there are no more relentless enemies of racial antagonism than the Communists. If the inference is drawn that Communists stir up racial antagonism by demanding equal rights for all, thereby provoking riots by those who would deny equal rights, then we can only say that the Communists stood upon the U. S. Constitution in this respect, while our critics stand upon evasion or flouting of the Constitution."

The letter adds:

"There is a national upsurge among Negroes for full manhood status, for the right to use their talents, unencumbered by Jim-Crow, in their country's and the United Nations' just war to extirpate Hitlerism.

"We propose that Hartford follow the example set in Cleveland and New York by vigorously tackling the real needs of the Negro people here and now, and by eliminating the real causes of such tension as exists."

Negro Paper Hails Communist Stand on Racism

Daily Worker New York

SEP 7 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6.—The Washington Afro-American in an editorial today praised the position position of the Communist Party on the Negro question and "race relations," stating that it "is far in advance of anything to be found on the platform of any other political party."

Taking Earl Browder's widely read win-the-war book Victory—And After as a basis for its recognition, the Afro quotes sections of the book to prove its point.

The editorial which discusses the recent joining of the Communist Party by Doxey A. Wilkerson, former professor at Howard University, points out that it is no wonder that Mr. Wilkerson has accepted the program of the Party, as set forth in Browder's Victory—And After, and joined the organization, as the only answer for the Negro people, "but that more thousands of persons haven't been persuaded to do so."

Attempting to answer the question why leading Negroes such as Mr. Wilkerson joined the Communist Party, the editorial states:

"A more reasonable theory can be arrived at by reading Earl Browder's new Communist Party pamphlet, titled 'Victory — And After.' Here is one excerpt:

"'We dare not, on pain of humiliating defeat in this war, rest complacently on the status of colored citizens of the U. S. This is simple, honest statement of anything to be found in the lations, which is far in advance of any other political party.'

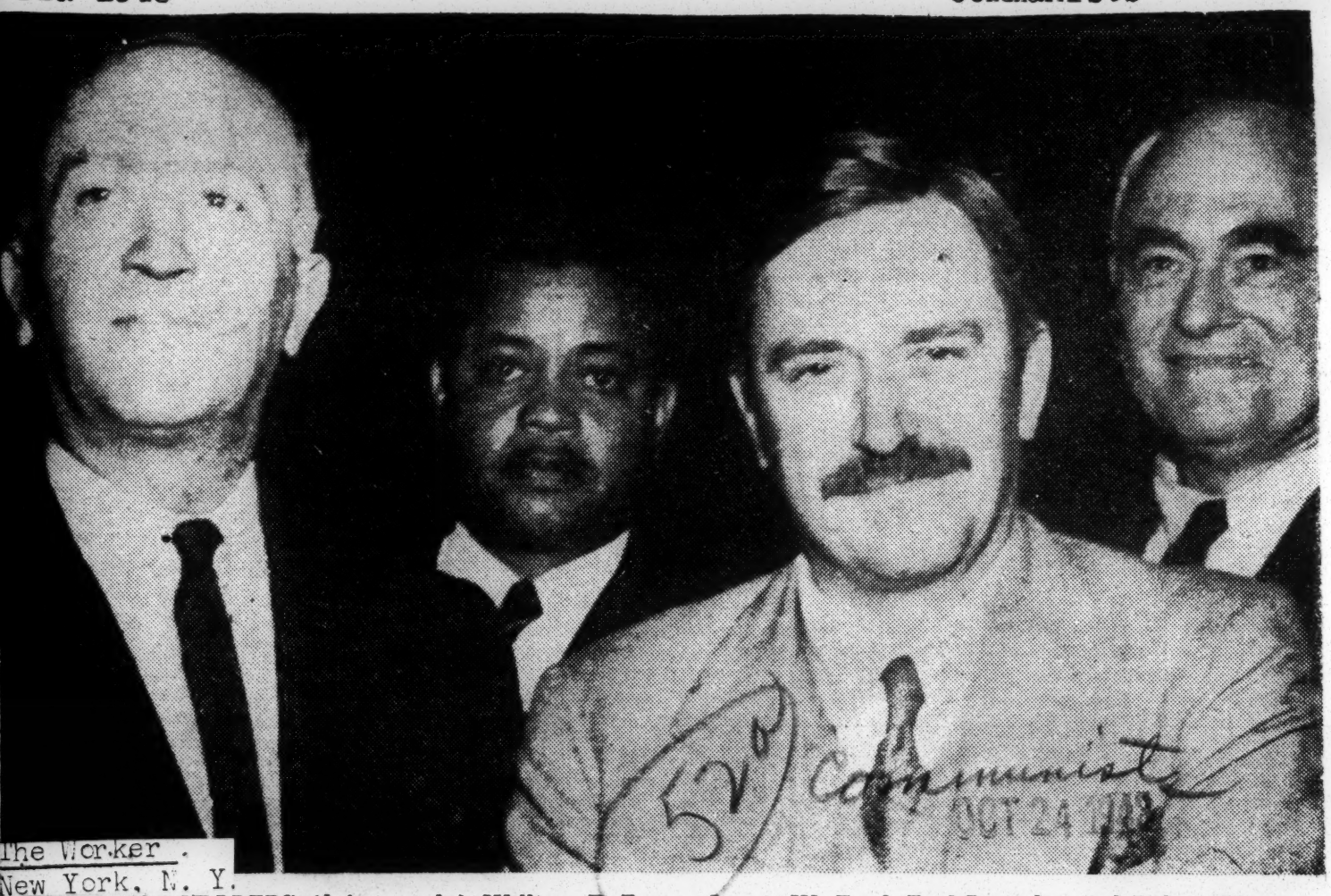
"'We must, as a war necessity, proceed to the systematic and re-platform lentless abolition of every law, custom, and habit of thought which, in flagrant violation of our Constitution, enforces an unequal status between colored and white citizens of the U. S.'

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Prof. Doxey Wilkerson Now Communist Aide

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, June 23. — Declaring his conviction that the best way "to devote my maximum efforts as a civilian to the promotion of our nation's war effort" is through "helping to strengthen the home front against the ever-mounting attacks of pro-Axis defeatist forces in our country," Prof. Doxey A. Wilkerson, prominent Negro edu-



The Worker
New York, N. Y.

COMMUNIST LEADERS (*left to right*) *William Z. Foster, James W. Ford, Earl Browder and Robert Minor.*

The Negro Press Hails 'Big Ben'

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

"The Negro people in the nation's metropolis, together with all others of the population, stand to gain by sending Ben Davis, Jr., to the City Council.... He becomes OUR Councilman regardless of his or our political ties." That is what the Negro press says.

By EUGENE GORDON

NEGRO newspaper comment on the election of Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., to the New York City Council is unanimous in greeting the event as the people's triumph. The fact that Davis is a Communist is taken in two ways: either it is regarded as totally unimportant, or it is taken to be especially important, in view of the Communists' known position on the Negro question.

They all agree that Mr. Davis' being a Negro is very much to the point; and it is upon this fact that they stand and cheer his election.

Following is editorial and columnist comment from a few papers. The first—titled "Big Ben"—is from the Boston Chronicle.

Comments By The
Boston Chronicle

"Indicative of the great ferment abroad in the land, out of which has foamed new precedents, as old customs and prejudices have sunk to the bottom, is the election of Benjamin Jefferson Davis, Jr., nationally prominent Negro Communist leader, to the New York City Council. Mr. Davis, who is an Amherst College and Harvard Law School graduate, is chairman of the Communist Party for New York County, and has served as associate editor of The Daily Worker.

"Two crystal-clear lessons in political experience may be drawn from the election of Mr. Davis. In the first place, his whole campaign was based upon the bedrock of Negro-white unity, demonstrated by the fact that a white Communist candidate withdrew from the race when he learned of Rev. Adam Powell's decision not to run for re-election, and worked as campaign manager for Big Ben. Unity brought victory, as always. Secondly, Negro voters were not swayed by partisan considerations, for although the Harlem vote was distributed among three Negro candidates, the consistent and unflagging leadership of Mr. Davis in the struggle of the Negro people against Jim Crowism easily gained for him the majority of first choices.

A clock, Big Ben, strikes the hour for parliamentary democracy in London, but our very human Big Ben will guard the interests of all the "little people" of the great city of New York who are fighting so steadfastly at home and abroad for the victory of the United Nations over the Axis Powers of Germany and Japan.

A seven column headline in words two inches high ran across the top of the Chronicle's page one. It read: "Davis Victory Stirs Nation."

Editorial By
The New York Age

The New York Age, in an editorial titled "Our New Councilman," observed that "Out of the proportional representation system of election, under which New York City elects its City Council, emerged a Negro figure that wrecks with in the body politic."

This man, it adds, "is the newly elected City Councilman, Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., who ran on the Communist ticket but who actually became the Negro candidate around whom Negroes rallied."

The Age continues:

"When Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., takes office on January 1, 1944 as City Councilman, he becomes by the very nature of things our Councilman, regardless of his or our political affiliation and ties. That is the challenge which Election Day gave to Benjamin J. Davis, Jr. We are confident that he will satisfactorily meet that challenge and will acquit himself with credit to the race as our Councilman."

Ted Yates, a commentator whose column is distributed to Negro newspapers through the Independent Press Service, exclaimed, a week after the election results became known:

"Negroes have learned to elect one of their own at last. Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., Communist leader, who was elected to the City Council—in fewer words—is the choice of the people."

Syndicated
Negro Columnist

Mr. Yates makes it clear that he is by no means a Communist because he voted for Davis. Readers of that column knew ti had endorsed Davis, Yates says, adding: is for Davis **as a Negro.** He doesn't want to be mistaken for a Communist because he voted for Davis. Readers of that column knew it had endorsed Davis, Yates says, adding:

"A move has seldom been my choice for me openly rooting for a political candidate. Newspapermen, seldom, if ever, go on record as being in favor of someone in politics, unless, of course, they are political writers. I am not going to tell you whether I am born Republican and born Baptist, like most of my people. Say, you'll learn here that I have never allied myself nor the contacts I have with any politician or political organization. **So, it does seem now that this fellow Davis must have something on the ball for this writer to bark, 'Hear ye, hear ye'!"**

What prompted him to write this column, Mr. Yates says, "was something I read in Westbrook Pegler's rag, the World-Telegram. Pegler, who has [illegible] according to the [illegible] columnist, "are peeved with the way people go to the polls and exercise the right of a citizen." As to the **Telegram's** dis- **tower,"** by Roy Wilkins, and in an quiet over Robeson's shaking hands with Davis, Mr. Yates says: **"I think it a fine thing for two great men, a swell actor like Robeson and a leader like Davis to be even seen together. H—l, I wouldn't want to be pictured with Westbrook Pegler!"**

Roy Wilkins'
Column

course, some white voters will vote for qualified Negroes for political offices. Of **Communist Negroes gave to Mr. Davis is what did the trick for him.** Conversely, the support the **Communist Party gave Councilman Powell two years ago greatly aided in his election. Rev. Powell** point to was almost solidly colored voters. **that a well organized** "The most important of all **Council (under propor- points to make about the election of Mr. Davis, however, is that he candidate can win the is thoroughly qualified for his membership in the Council. A** editorial, praise Mr. Davis' elec- politicians have tion. The editorial makes three either because of their cause of their main points:

"The election of Benjamin Davis to the City Council is, in many respects, the most outstanding feature of the recent councilmanic contest. Folowing as it did closely behind the election of Justice Francis E. Rivers to the City Court, it proves conclusively that **minority can elect its candidate to larly if its candidate can win the support of another group of voters.**

close student of social problems, courageous, honest and highly educated, Mr. Davis, son of a former Republican National Committeeman from Georgia, should be a real asset to the entire citizenry of New York as a member of its legislative body. At least we think he will be, and congratulate him upon his whopping victory."

Democrats At Work

The Hearst press thinks the Davis election is the last straw and the Proportional Representation system will have to go. They say PR gives racial and political minorities too much chance to be elected. Well, that is the object of PR. Why should a minority with, say, 100,000 votes, be denied a voice in government? Why should that minority be forced to choose between two candidates who do not represent the views of the minority?

"If our system of government is so weak that two Communists out of a Council of 17 members constitute a danger, then we had better be looking, to our foundations.

"As a matter of fact, the presence of two declared Communists in our council probably will benefit everyone. Communists stimulate activity. They stimulate progressive measures. More often than not, they voice the aspirations of the plain people, even though those plain people would not go so far as to espouse Communism itself.

Ben Davis— The Man

"As for Ben Davis himself, the City of New York is fortunate to have him in the council. He is young and able. It is to be doubted whether there is a single council member of any higher calibre. Davis is a graduate of Amherst and the Harvard Law School, two impeccable and aristocratic seats of American learning. He is probably as good a politician as any man in the council. His father for many years was a Republican national committeeman from Georgia, one of the smartest of that clan of Negro politicians of his day. Needless to say, with this background and with the graduate course in politics he has received in the Communist party, Davis is far from being a greenhorn.

Ben Davis— The Affable

"Best of all, Davis is affable and personable. He does not knock you down with a Communist argument if you should happen to mention that it is a fine day. After the dailies stop choking and cussing, they will find that he will make a good councilman for the people of New York."

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

NEGRO COMMUNIST ELECTED TO N. Y. CITY COUNCIL SEAT

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., last week became the first Negro Communist in American politics to be elected to a major political office when he squeezed under the wire as one of Manhattan's four city councilmen. Two Democrats and a Republican were elected with him.

Coming on the heels of the decisive triumph of Francis Ellis Rivers as city court judge two weeks ago, which also established a precedent for Negroes in New York politics, the significance of the election of Davis cannot be minimized. The associate editor of the Communist newspaper, The Daily Worker, Davis has been identified with the party for many years.

Davis polled 44,334 votes. S. Samuel Di Falco, Democrat, who polled 42,327 votes, and an incumbent, finally conceded fourth place in the Manhattan race to Davis, thus bringing to a conclusion one of the most colorful city council elections in years.

Davis takes the place of Councilman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., doughty young Harlem minister, who has already announced his intentions to run for congress next year. Davis is the second Communist to win election to the council, the other, Peter B. Cacchione fo Brooklyn, having been reelected in a runaway race.

Known for his ideals and courage, young Davis is considered "a chip ou the old block," his father having been the National Republican committeeman from Georgia for many years.

A Communist of long standing, Davis won tremendous white support to win his city council seat.

Daily Worker New York, N. Y.

C.P. Wants No Monopoly on Fight For Negroes, It's Job for All--Davis

By Ben Davis, Jr.

If the New York Times of Dec. 22, reported Mr. A. Philip Randolph accurately, then his statement in many respects answers the organized campaign of red-baiting and division which the defeatist forces are energetically promoting against the Negro people.



BEN DAVIS, Jr.

Mr. Randolph stated, in effect, that my election to the City Council was evidence that the Communist Party backs Negroes for election to public office. He said secondly that the policy of the Communist Party in working for the Negroes to have representation in government offices shows that other political parties must give more consideration to the Negro people.

I agree wholeheartedly with both these propositions and wish to call to the attention of the New York Times — which tried so laboriously to twist Mr. Randolph's statement into a red-baiting attack upon forthright advocacy for Negro equality—that it had better re-examine his statement for a possible backfire.

The Communist Party fights for the full citizenship of Negro Americans and it is glad that it is not alone in the fight. In the first place, the labor movement, of which the Communists are a part, and tens of thousands of other democratic Americans are doing likewise—and millions of others are beginning to understand this fight as a part of the war for victory and a just peace. The Communist Party agitates — although the word "agitates" is taboo unless Rankin is agitating against the extension of the ballot to soldiers and impoverished Southerners—for the full constitutional equality of Negro citizens. Who should object to such agitation except those circles in which the federal constitution is not popular?

WANT NO MONOPOLY

The Communists want no monopoly of the fight for Negro rights. It is ready to work with any and all who want to struggle peacefully and democratically for a solution of this question, in accordance with the law of the land. Communists want nothing more, in this regard, than that every party. especially the Democratic and Republican parties, would unitedly work for the fullest representation of the Negro people in all councils of government and in all parties and for the full unconditional equality of Negro Americans.

Communists would welcome a genuine agreement among all political parties for full citizenship of Negroes so that this issue could be removed as a political one and no longer serve as a political football. Until that can be achieved, however, the Communists will continue to work relentlessly for the full citizenship of Negroes and for the elimination of racial discrimination against Jews and other minorities.

Those papers like the World-Telegram, the Hearst Press—unfortunately the Times, and also the Herald Tribune—which are continuously complaining that the Communists raise the issue of the inequalities of the Negroes, should see that these inequalities are abolished. Then no one would have to raise them. We wonder, also, if certain hypocritical forces aren't considerably disturbed because, notwithstanding Detroit convulsions, our ailing national body is trying to expel the poison of "racism"—and has good prospect of doing so in the near future.

FASCIST TAINT

But instead of helping to eliminate this cancerous evil which eats into national unity, Negro morale and into our moral fitness as a nation, the Times, in recent weeks, has been trying to browbeat the Negro people into accepting doings of the poll taxers and the Hoover-Dewey Republicans without protest, lest the whole Negro people be red-baited. Tons of pressure are being put upon various Negro leaders for a statement to "clear themselves of the Communist taint"; when as a matter of fact, it is in order that red-baiters clear themselves of the fascist taint.

Red-baiting won't frighten the Negro people or swerve them from their course of unity, cooperation with labor, and the progressive, anti-fascist forces of our country who are mobilizing for victory abroad and at home in '44 behind the leadership of President Roosevelt. Red-baiting as a method of legitimate political warfare is passing out, though the red-baiters, prodded by Hitler, hang on for dear life. These are the days of Tehran, not Munich. History teaches us that Munichism is the worst the Municheers.

If the Times would use its put-people-on-the-spot journalism for the Rankins, the unprincipled Roosevelt-haters and for the practitioners of racial discrimination in our country, we would be much nearer to victory, and to the kind of country and world envisioned by the history-making Tehran conference.

52a-1943

COMMUNISTS

Harlem Communists All-Out In 'Worker' Press Campaign

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Oakley Johnson

How does a bang-up **Daily Worker** fund drive get going and actually get there?

In other words, how does a Communist Party member and his friends raise money for a paper they like and don't want to get along without?

Harlem has many an example.

Poverty-stricken, maligned in the commercial press, discriminated against to the point of insufferable provocation—the people of Harlem yet find ways and means.

GET SUBS, CASH

Upper Harlem Section has nine branches with a total of 954 members, and their "quota" in the present drive, ending Aug. 31, is $5,000 and 500 one-dollar subscriptions to **The Worker.**

Up to the time this was written the Harlemites had gotten 91 subs and $1,605.93, but that's not the whole story. Many branches are just in the middle of activities, and the whole story isn't ready to tell yet. But there's [illegible] that "can be told."

Take the Railroaders' Club, with headquarters at 702 St. Nicholas Ave.

One thing they did was to advertise the fund drive in **The People's Voice,** a leading organ of the Negro people of Harlem. The Railroaders are nothing if not modern.

Five girl Railroaders are holding a party at the headquarters on Aug. 7, in the evening, and if you happen to go there, you'll have a good time, but take some money along.

A couple of good ping pong players among the Railroaders have found that the ping pong their quota by steady plugging. If they win, their opponents pay 25c into the Fund; if they lose, they themselves pay 25c—into the Fund

The Railroaders have gone into partnership with the 21st A. D. Club, which also has headquarters at 702 St. Nicholas Ave., with plans soon for a 3-day Carnival, which promises to be something good.

Branch 6-A ("The Doctors") has already fulfilled its share—$450, including 10 subs to **The Worker**—of the Harlem Section's quota. A group known simply as "The Teachers" has raised $362.78 toward a goal of $550. Another group known as "The Nurses" has raised $87.80 toward a goal of $200.

A woman in the 11th A. D. Club devised the stunt of Sunday morning breakfasts where she serves delicious pancakes and syrup and kills two birds with each serving. The visitor pays for the breakfast (the money of course goes to the Fund Drive) and puts his signature on the Nominating Petitions for putting Carl Brodsky on the ballot for City [illegible]man.

As a wind-up for the hot summer campaign, the Harlem Section as a whole, according to present plans, is going to hold a swimming party. The idea is to keep down your temperature and keep the funds going up.

Harlem has its stovepipe hat in the Fund Drive, and at the same time is getting subs, signing up new members, getting nominating petitions signed.

'COMING THROUGH'

Everything's connected, tied together. Harlem believes that its progress is not unconnected with the street demonstrations in Milan.

"Harlem has a way of coming through," said Leon Love, treasurer of the Harlem section, as he turned in his latest pile of money for the fund drive. **"Harlem will come through, even at the last minute. It's never safe to bet against Harlem."**

Workers in Africa Cheer Davis Election

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y. By Art Shields

The glad news of Ben Davis' election to the City Council in New York is echoing back from Africa.

A merchant ship's crew returned yesterday with a report of the enthusiasm that workers in Algeria showed at the tidings.

Stanley M. Rose, one of the seamen told the Daily Worker that he was talking down the street in one of the smaller Algerian port towns on Armistice Day, November 11, when he saw a group of French men gazing at news bulletins in store window and smiling happily.

They were looking at a story from New York on the official U. S. Army's ticker tape, which one of the men was translating.

The story briefly reported that Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., Negro Communist, had been elected to the City Council in New York. It added that the Communists were expected to have another seat.

French, Spanish and some Arabian workers in the African town continued talking about Davis' victory for several days.

A GOOD SIGN

They said that the election of a Negro Communist in America was a good sign for them. The news indicated, they declared that the people's movement in North Africa would develop in freedom.

"Democracy is gaining fast in North Africa," reported the visiting seaman.

"[illegible]kers' meetings were held even [illegible] Frenchman, Spaniard and [illegible] unloading American ships seemed to be a member of the dock workers' trade union. Every railroad worker was organized in the syndicate of Chemin de Fers, the union of railroad workers."

The unions have come back with vigor this year. They are part of the labor confederation, the "C. G. T." which the fascists suppressed.

The unions hold tremendous meetings in the big Bourse du Travail (Labor Exchange)" the seaman continued.

The Communists are united with members of other democratic parties in a common front against fascism.

Workers in the North African town are great[illegible] interested in politics.

At night in the Bourse du Travail I would see longshoremen who had been discharging our cargo by day," Rose related.

C. P. Leaders Greet Ford on 50th Year

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Earl Browder, general secretary of the Communist Party; William Z. Foster, national chairman, and other members of the Political Committee of the Party yesterday joined in warm greetings to James W. Ford on his fiftieth anniversary today. Their letter to the noted win-the-war Negro leader, who is also a member of the Communist Party's national committee, follows:

"Dear Jim:

"Congratulations and warm personal greetings on your fiftieth birthday. We know we speak for the entire Party in extending best wishes to you on this occasion. As a loyal and active leader of the Party you have devoted many years in the labor movement, particularly in the cause of Negro rights and equality and especially in forging firm bonds of unity between white labor and the Negro people. The fruits of these labors, so closely identified with the historic contributions of our party to the struggle for Negro liberation and equality,



JAMES W. FORD

are shown in the proud role of the Negro people in our country's war effort and especially in the heartening beginnings of a new [illegible] embracing anti[illegible] unity which promises to mark a further historic milestone in the struggle for democracy.

"In the face of the greatest obstacles and provocations the Negro people promptly and with superb dignity recognized and took up their responsibilities in the war against the Hitler Axis. And they have continued to demonstrate that they will never allow their just grievances to serve the enemies of the war Administration and its measures. Victory over Hitlerism, heralded by the Tehran Conference, carries with it the promise of the greatest advances ever to open up in the history of the Negro people. We know that you will continue to be in the forefront of these great developments, and by your activities and contributions help bring them into life. With best wishes and warm comradely greetings,

"EARL BROWDER.
"WM. Z. FOSTER.
"ROBERT MINOR.
"ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN
"GENE DENNIS
"ROY HUDSON
"JOHN WILLIAMSON
"GIL GREEN."

Best wishes on the occasion of his 50th birthday were also extended to Ford by the staff of the Daily Worker.

Louis F. Budenz, managing editor, declared that "Ford's 50th birthday coincides with a crucial year in the struggle against fascism, a struggle in which the Negro leader will undoubtedly continue to make great contributions."

Hailing Ford's outstanding record as a Fighter for the Rights of the Negro people, Budenz declared that the Daily Worker was especially appreciative of Ford's work since he "is a regular and valuable contributor to our columns."

Reds Played Race Tune for Quill, Davis

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.
NOV 12 1943

By FREDERICK WOLTMAN,
World-Telegram Staff Writer.

(Second of two articles on Communist strategy in the Coucilmanic contest.)

The Communists sent their Bronx and Manhattan favorites to City Council by whirlwind campaigns which far outspent the other parties and ran circles around them in the propaganda art of capitalizing on the troubles and feelings of race and nationality.

In Manhattan, Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., for years a Communist party wheelhorse, became the glamorous crusader for the Negro people.

A "sensational galaxy" of Negro entertainers backed him, from Cab Calloway, Duke Ellington and Count Basie to Lena Horne, the movie star, and Katherine Dunham, the dancer. Admiringly, the Amsterdam News called his campaign "the most colorful and vigorously conducted" in the city.

Irish Freedom.

In the Bronx, Michael J. Quill, an independent but a special pet of the Communists, brought out the old drums for Irish freedom again and, this time, conducted a door-to-door, bell-ringing canvass in the Irish neighborhoods that would have put Tammany Hall to shame.

His Transport Workers Union Cacchione, in the Brighton Beach section of Brooklyn.

But the party alone boasted it sent 500,000 pieces of Davis literature through Manhattan. And Mr. Davis' "Citizens' Non-Partisan Committee," according to the Daily Worker, got out "a striking four-page red, white and black brochure of which 100,000 have been printed," telling "the story of the working class leader who is a No. 1 man for the City Council, and a No. 1 fighter for all the people."

This story of Ben Davis, Jr., carried an imposing photo layout depicting "Ben at Amherst College," with two Scottsboro mothers," "with college football squad," fighting "a 10 per cent rent boost," etc.

The Communists in Brooklyn passed out an even more imposing glamorizing job, entitled Our Pete: Newsreel of a People's Councilman. Among other things it showed:

"The Cacchiones at home—Cacchione, Jr., learns to stand on his own feet"; and "Peter's a Dodger fan—what's more he used to be a baseball player himself."

The Climax.

Climax of the rage was a bang-up Vote Ben Davis Show at the Golden Gate Ballroom in Harlem, attended by 5000 persons.

Last Sunday's Communist Worker gushed over with a full-page "Meet Mike Quill" layout of pictures and a story written in a pseudo-Irish brogue that said everything but "begorra." It concluded (this was before the count established Mr. Davis' victory also):

"Well, Mike's back in there again. And he's got good company this time. Fella by the name of Cacchione. All Brooklyn knows him as Pete.

"Quite a lineup. Quill and Cacchione. YES, all you enemies of the people of New York. You're on the way OUT!"

But it was the Worker of Oct. 31 that summarized the issues of the campaign, as the Communists exploited them, at least, Mr. Davis it said, represents "all the people." And, to quote:

"For he's Irish, Negro, Jewish, Italian, French and English. Double Czech-American. And that ain't all. He's a Baptist, Methodist, Congregationalist, Lutheran, Atheist, Seventh Day Adventist, Orthodox-Jewish, Presbyterian.

"And lots more. He's a Communist."

Reds' Gains in Council Laid to Racial Drives

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.
NOV 12 1943

By FREDERICK WOLTMAN,
World-Telegram Staff Writer.

(First of two articles on Communist methods in the Councilmanic campaign.)

The British White Paper on Palestine, the exclusion of Negroes from major league baseball teams, feeding the inhabitants of conquered Italy and Michael J. Quill's childhood participation in the Irish revolution were some of the issues that won Council seats in the last election for the three pet candidates of the Communist party.

No Issue Too Remote.

The Communists even got religion for the occasion, it will be shown later.

For in that election, which gave them their strongest voice in the city government to date, the Communists, a survey showed today, waged a lavishly financed drive throughout the city which deliberately exploited racial, religious and nationalistic feeling to the virtual exclusion of municipal issues.

No campaign slogan or issue was too remote from the purview of City Council for them to utilize.

In a last-minute bid for votes, for instance, Peter V. Cacchione, Communist Councilman, sent thousands of letters to Italian-Americans in Brooklyn inviting them to consult his office if they were having trouble communicating with relatives in Allied-occupied Italy.

NOV 11 1943

Communist Technique Wins.

Completion of the PR count yesterday officially added Quill and Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., party functionary, to Cacchione in the Communist-backed bloc of City Council. Although Quill ran as an independent, he and the other two were top "musts" on the party's list.

Many perplexed voters, meanwhile, were asking today how it came about that the Communists gained in the City Council contest, whereas the Democrats and American Labor party lost seats and the Republicans barely held their own. And how it was that Quill in the Bronx and Cacchione in Brooklyn each pulled more first choice ballots in their boroughs than did the Communists throughout the state in the 1942 election for Governor.

One answer is that from the start they planned a strategy aimed primarily at drawing support from Jewish, Negro, Irish, Italian and other such voting groups.

They perfected a technique of using PR—intended to give representation to minority political parties—for solidifying votes along racial, religious and national lines.

Communist Label Evaded.

The Communist angle was effectively obliterated. In fact, in the case of Davis and Cacchione, official Communist candidates, most of the literature went out in the name of Negro, labor, Italian or other "independent committees" without a hint of their party background.

The day before election one of Cacchione's committees ran an expensive appeal in some of the newspapers. It neglected to say he was the Communist candidate.

But he was "A True Son of the Italian-American People" in one of the flood of pamphlets his backers issued. He was "the first choice of every Italian American in Brooklyn," according to signers who were chiefly left-wing Italian-American trade unionists.

Nationalism Stressed.

"Pete," the pamphlet went on, "has said that now that the Italian people were freed from the Fascist yoke, their American friends should immediately go to work to provide relief for them."

Good Work, Mr. Cacchione, was the title of another pamphlet addressed to the Negroes. "The Negro people will remember your record." Paul Robeson, renowned Negro baritone and Communist protagonist, was pictured shaking hands with the candidate on the cover. With no mention of the Communist ticket.

The circular addressed to the Jewish voters backed the Zionists' stand against British policy and held generally that the re-election of Cacchione was necessary to solve the problem of Palestine. It neglected to point out that the Communists never have cared much for the Zionists and, a few years back, sided with the Arabs against the Jews in Palestine. Nor did it mention his Communist affiliation.

The Cacchione circular, addressed to the Jewish voters, deplored anti-Semitism, joined the Zionists in demanding abrogation of the British White Paper restricting Jewish immigration into Palestine. It failed to note that the Communists never have cared much for Zionists or the Palestine question. Or that Cacchione was a Communist.

The Religious Angle.

It was Councilman Cacchione who suddenly began to take an interest in organized religion, contrary to all good Communist precept, as the pre-election contest started to get under way.

On the first Sunday of October the Negro congregation of the Holy Trinity Baptist Church, Brooklyn, were treated to the presence of a high Communist party official in their pulpit. It was Cacchione, offering to help raise $10,000, according to the Communists' official organ, the Daily Worker, "to pay for a new house of worship and replace the one burned down early last year.

There was a "gasp," continued the Worker, "followed by audible expressions of good will and friendliness," when Mr. Cacchione handed the pastor a check for $300 "for an advance sale of tickets for a bazaar the church is holding next December."

Wins Pastor's Support.

"He's a Communist and I'm going to vote for him," the Worker quoted the Rev. Dr. Thomas S. Harten as announcing from the pulpit.

"The congregation responded with exclamations of 'Amen!' and applause," went on the Worker. The pastor then described Cacchione as "a Communist all over." "That's O. K.," the audience shouted," according to the Worker.

Later, in the day-before-election newspaper advertisements, the Citizens Committee to Re-Elect Peter V. Cacchione quoted this tribute to its candidate from the Rev. Dr. Harten:

"I feel your noble and unselfish public service placed you in the realm of Abraham Lincoln, Henry Ward Beecher and other humanitarians."

COMMUNISTIS

A Negro Educator Tells Why—

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

"I'm Now a Communist"

NOV 21 1943

It's a Party of unlimited opportunity to contribute to victory, says Doxey A. Wilkerson.

By BETTINA CHENRY

NOV 21 1943

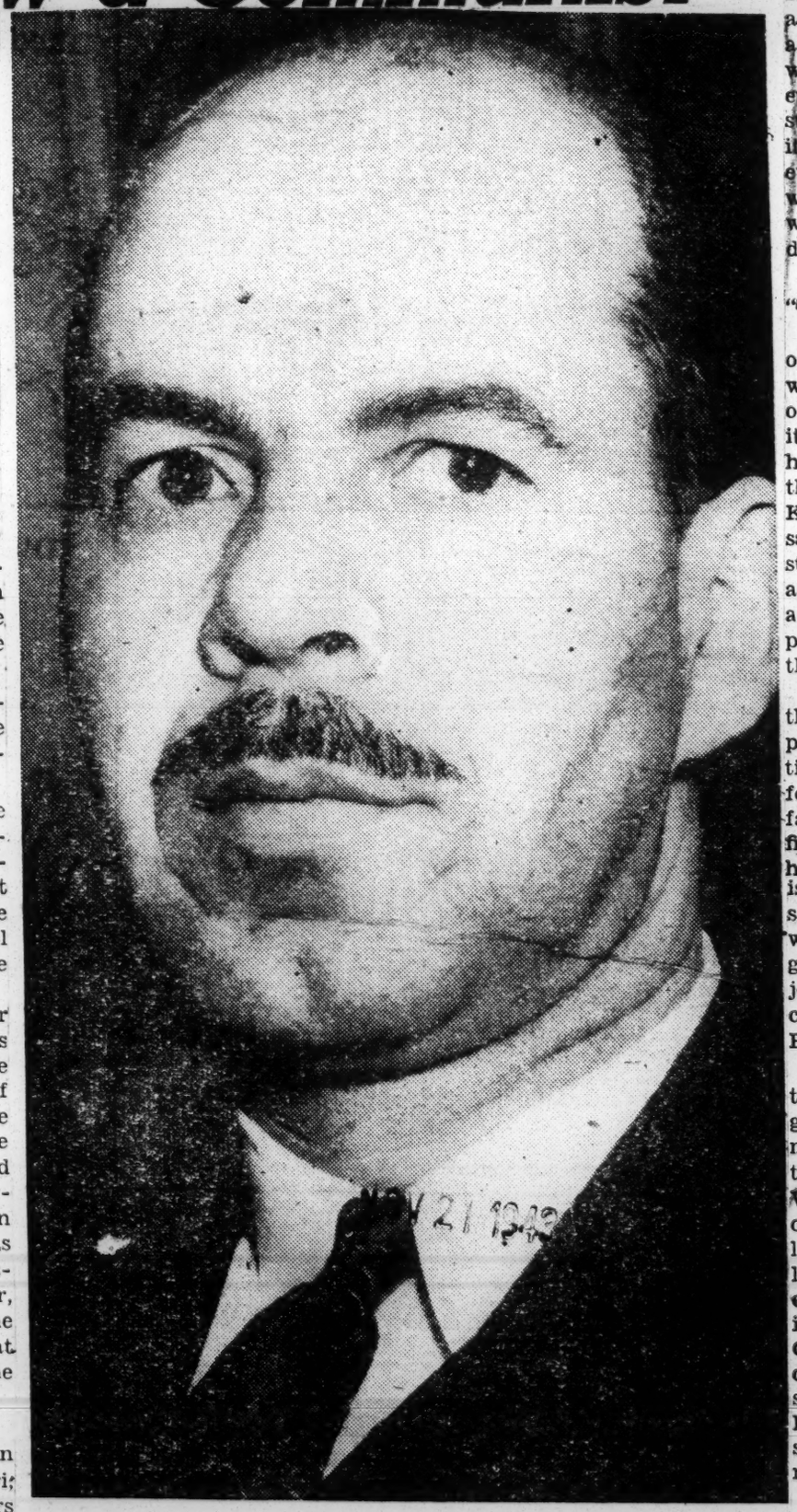
DOXEY WILKERSON, the noted Negro educator whose joining the Communist Party caused such a stir in the country recently, said he entered the services of the Party as other men enter the army—to help win the war and secure the peace for the people.

Mr. Wilkerson said he considers the Communist Party a place of unlimited opportunity to contribute to victory.

As Educational Director of the Party for Maryland and the District of Columbia, Doxey Wilkerson finds himself in the most satisfying job of his remarkable career—a career already well packed with outstanding service to the cause of all people.

Mr. Wilkerson is a tall, slender man, as quiet in his manner as he is wise in his utterances. He has the gentleness and modesty of all really great people who see themselves and their work in the perspective of world problems and numbers. Just past his thirty-eighth birthday, he has made an abrupt change in a life that was a good part academic in atmosphere [illegible] teacher, he conducts himself with the same poise and gentle dignity at a Party meeting as he did in the classroom.

DOXEY WILKERSON was born in Excelsior Spring, Missouri; and by the time he was 14 years old he already had a good idea of what the score was. As a Negro child in a jim crow community he had fought town bullies and been angered by being refused admission to theatres. More than that he had wept with his mother and father over southern lynch horrors recounted in the Negro press.



DOXEY A. WILKERSON

". . . to really understand how great and good is the role of the Communist Party."

He knew about Negro job discrimination early, of course. He met it when he went looking for a job at the local golf course when he was ten. He met it working in a box factory at the age of 14. But Doxey Wilkerson learned the broad history of oppression almost as early. He learned that white and Negro people who worked were both at the mercy of their employers. It was this understanding, early in life, which made it possible for Doxey Wilkerson, even as a lad in college, to join with other young men, including white ones, to fight all forms of discrimination.

"THE DOVE" is a name which remains dear in the memory of Doxey Wilkerson. "The Dove" was a "liberal journal of campus opinion," as he smilingly describes it today. With nine other students, he helped start the publication on the campus of the University of Kansas. "The Dove" exposed unsavory fraternity combines in student politics, fought for the abolition of campus jim crow, and lambasted professors who espoused reactionary doctrines in their classes.

Mr. Wilkerson said he didn't think of himself as belonging to any particular political opinion at the time; he was just against all forms of wrong. As a matter of fact the Communist Party is the first party he has ever joined in his life and he said he thinks it is the only one that could ever satisfy the needs of the American working class. The war and its great requirements hastened his joining and made him plunge completely into the work of the Party.

"All of my associations, in the trade unions and with other organizations," he told us, "had led me to appreciate and understand the role of the Communist Party. Whether I was helping workers to organize, fighting police brutality, lobbying for progressive social legislation or campaigning for equal job opportunity for Negroes, it was always the same . . . the Communists were among the most constructive, loyal and energetic sponsors of the movement. I longed for people to really understand how great and good was the role of the Communist Party.

MR. WILKERSON taught 16 years ago at the Virginia State College and while there he became an ardent participant in the fight to improve opportunities and conditions of education for Negro children. His subsequent years of teaching at Howard University are memorable to him for more things than just pleasant association.

It was at Howard that he was introduced to and became an active member of the American Federation of Teachers, in which he served several years as a national officer. It was there too that he became acquainted with and a part of the broad trade union movement, there that he found the intellectual stimulation to follow through the studies which led him to understand socialism as the answer to the needs of all the people.

Mr. Wilkerson said he knew of course that he was terribly right in joining the Communist Party as he did. He knew that there he could best serve his people and help win the war and the victory for the people—but if he hadn't been so sure he would certainly have been convinced by the things that happened right after the news of his joining hit the press.

"My mail swelled to remarkable proportions," he said. "You would be amazed at the liberals and others throughout the country who congratulated me on the stand I had taken. More than that, the people I met on the street and in stores—my barber and the presser and a lot of other 'little people' came up to me and said 'shake hands.' I am sure that thousands of people who have not joined the Party themselves nevertheless love it deeply because of its unwavering stand in their behalf."

Doxey Wilkerson writes regularly for the *Daily Worker*. In addition to frequent articles, his column—*Toward Freedom*—appears, every Thursday in the *Daily Worker*.

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

A Suggestion to Ford

New York, N. Y.

Editor, The Worker:

In today's N. Y. Sun there appeared a vicious slander against the Communist Party. The Sun claims that Communists were directly responsible for the 1935 (March 19) riot. Communist "propagandists" as much as lied, according to the Sun, concerning the condition of Lino Rivera, in order to cause a race riot.

The Sun seems to be following the line of Gov. [illegible] Virgil Chandler. Chandler said, "Well, the n———s got the Communists on their side and so you have a race riot." Today the Sun said, "Communist propagandists, quicksilver to snatch at the chance to cause a major victory on the battle-trouble, published handbills charg-fronts a [illegible] ing that the police had brutally beaten the lad." Although the Sun I believe that James W. Ford might not be anti-Negro con-should, as a Negro and a Communtinues the tradition of [illegible] w-dognist, write a letter to the Sun re-journalism. [illegible] paper knows futing this double insult.

MRS. E.L.

Soldiers on the Home Front

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
OCT 16 1943



Three of the Cleveland delegates to the Young Communist League convention. Left to right, Blanche Glinski, Mary Elizabeth Willis and Ruth Garfinkle. —Daily Worker Photo

Mary, Ruth, Blanche--Typical of the YCL

By Beth McHenry

Mary and Ruth and Blanche are three young Communist League delegates you'd love to introduce to mothers and fathers all over the country. They are just natural morale builders and the war is their life till it's won.

Mary, Ruth and Blanche had just got off the Cleveland to New York train when we met them at YCL headquarters and they still were full of the zest that no discomfort can dispel. They're inured to sacrifice aready — their boy friends are overseas and they themselves are putting in long hours either on jobs or doing volunteer work for the war.

Mary, whose last name is Willis, is a 26-year old seamstress who came into the YCL nine months ago because she figured that was the place wher she could help her own people the best.

NEGRO YOUTH JOINING

Mary says more and more Negro young people are joining the YCL and their biggest reason is that they want to lear how to change army jim crow.

"What's the thing that has hurt our people most of all," Mary said. "The boys being discriminated against right in the army where they are giving their lives. All Negro people think of this constantly and resent it bitterly. You have to give people democracy in order to make them fight for it."

THEY BOTH FIGHT

And Ruth is Ruth Garfinkle, a 23 year old welder in a war plant, whose hsuband of four months is a gunner in the air corps. They met at a CIO convention in April, were married in June and he went overseas in July. That's the way things go these days, Ruth said with a smile, you meet and marry and then have to part for awhile. But if you're both fighting in the war it's easier, she said.

Ruth's brief history is a very unusual and brave one. The oldest of five children, she became sort of the mother of the family when their parents died. She was 12 and she said her two brothers and two sisters and she sat down and planned their lives so that they would grow up together. Their parents had left a little money in the form of insurance and it was doled out to the young family sparingly so that meals had to be planned cautiously and few "extras" were allowed. But the Garfinkle kids came through with flying colors and they're the closest family imaginable, though of course the war has separated them.

YOUTH LEADER

Ruth has been a YCL-er for three years and she's president of the Rose Clark Club, named for a young and beloved Cleveland comrade who died.

Ruth was agog with seeing New York. She was here once before, It's always rush, rush, rush, she never can see enough of the place.

"Our delegation met up with the delegation from Chicago and we sang songs on the train and the soldiers and other passengers joined in. Some of them were so pleased with our songs that they made us copy them down so they could learn them themselves. The United Nations song was the most popular one we sang."

Ruth has been working in a war plant a year. She started out on a lathe but studied to become a welder. She says the workers in her shop have given a lot of blood already and they all buy war bonds

DAUGHTER OF A MINER

The youngest of the three young ladies from Cleveland was Blanche Glinski, a radiant 17 year old who was literally born into the labor movement and just takes it for granted that she will work in it all her life. Blanche is a young Polish girl whose father was blacklisted in the West Virginia coal mines, which is why the family went to Cleveland. She said she attended her first union meeting when she was six months old.

"My mother had no one to leave me with," she explained. "And my mother was very active in spite of having children."

For Blanche's mother knew what it was to want things changed so badly that you'd make any sacrifices to improve the conditions of work in which your husband engaged. Her husband's father and two brothers were killed in a mine accident in West Virginia and the fear of mine disaster has clung with her.

Young Blanche says the Polish young people she knows are becoming a little better informed on the Soviet Union these days, but there is still a lot of work to be done to make them understand completely. "In my Modern Problems a lot more of the students back up what I say than used to," she told us. "I guess they're beginning to understand that you can't be for democracy and against the Soviet Union, it just doesn't work out."

We thought Blanche was probably too young to have a boy friend in the army but she said what do you mean too young, I'll have you know my fiance is in England.

Her fiance is in England and she is in the Red Cross, a staff assistant with a diploma of which she is very proud.

That's the kind of stuff of which the YCL is made!



BEN DAVIS, JR.

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Strengthen OPA In Harlem—Davis

Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., Communist Party candidate for City Council, yesterday criticized the Manhattan War Price and Rationing Board for failure to make better use of price panel assistants in Harlem in tracking down black marketeers.

The stumbling block put in the way of volunteer assistants is insurmountable by most of them. The board's demand being that they work nine hours every week, either mornings or afternoons, or not work at all. The result has been that most of these volunteers, live and work in the Harlem community, are barred from helping the badly harassed OPA in Harlem. The board refuses to adjust its time schedule to suit the volunteers.

"Price and food conditions in Harlem are worse than anywhere else in the city," Davis said, "but they are an indication of what is happening to the working people throughout the metropolis. It is for that reason that the OPA apparatus, which reactionary forces are trying to wreck, must be strengthened. This can be done only through the active intervention of labor and the people, particularly through delegations of Negro and white people and of labor representatives."

The Communist candidate for City Council said it was obvious that the people, "as they have proved it in Harlem," are "anxious to assist in policing prices and in enforcing ceilings" and that their offer of help "is not being accepted."

"The barriers to that help must be broken down," Mr. Davis declared, "for they are barriers also against our efforts to put the home front on a victory basis."

Says Communists Exploit the Negro To Aid Red Cause

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Labor Leader Charges Modern Carpet Baggers With Duping Race

By FREDERICK WOLTMAN,
World-Telegram Staff Writer.

On the "spurious notion that all types of social disorder make for social progress," the American Communists "have literally worked overtime" as "the apostles of confusion and chaos" among the Negroes, Frank R. Crosswaith, for 25 years a Negro labor leader, declared today in the November issue of Interracial Review.

"Every Negro with talents and ability is being singled out by the Communists for capture," according to the article. Communists and the Negro, in the Catholic monthly magazine dedicated to interracial justice and the betterment of Negro conditions.

"The bait used to accomplish this objective includes: Promised financial support, publicity, intermarriage, self-determination in the Black Belt and so forth."

Utilize the Plight.

From the famed Scottsboro case to the recent disorders in Detroit and Harlem, Mr. Crosswaith, a member of the New York City Housing Authority, states, the Communists in every instance "seek, not so much to help the Negro, but rather to utilize the plight of the Negro as a means of advancing the cause of Communism.

"Daily they single out one or more of the many problems that hourly haunt the Negro people and exploit them. In most cases the [illegible] of their efforts is to aggravate the situation and further complicate matters."

Citing the post-civil war carpet-baggers who left the night riders and Ku Klux Klan in their trail, he calls the Communists "the modern carpetbaggers" who "will probably leave a record equally as provoking and as effective in preventing better understanding between Negro and white Americans."

Arouse Opposition.

During "the Yanks are coming days," Mr. Crosswaith states, the Communists in Harlem "will continue to be chloroformed by Communist appeal," he concludes, it "continue to hamper the progress of the Negro toward ultimate liberty and justice" as long as American Communists keep their feet in America and their fuse to be in Russia."

Mr. Crosswaith is chairman of the Negro labor committee and general organizer of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

Although the Negro [illegible] "re-

52a-1943

DEMOCRAT

Powell Will Run For U. S. Congress

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.
1943

NEW YORK, N. Y.—(ANP) The Rev. A. Clayton Powell Jr., pastor of the Abyssinia Baptist Church and Fusion-Laborite councilman from Manhattan, has announced that he would run for Congress in the new 20th district in Harlem, standing in the primaries of the Republican, Democratic and American Labor parties.

Rev. Powell said he would not be a candidate for reelection as councilman. The minister is an enrolled Democrat.

52a-1943

Florida

Negro Qualifies In Miami Election

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

By WARDELLE BATTIESCA

MIAMI — (ANP) — Sam B. Solomon, dynamic and civic minded leader of possibly 60,000 Negroes in greater Miami, Saturday qualified as a candidate in the race for city commissioner in Miami. He paid his $100 fee Monday.

This is the first time in the history of Florida that a Negro has qualified has candidate for the city commission. In so doing, Solomon has made a step forward in trying to justify the necessity for Negroes of Miami to have sincere representation in the municipal government of this city.

Before venturing into this race Mr. Solomon received any number of letters and verbal requests urging that the qualify and run for the city commission. With only some 20 odd days before the election Solomon considered the idea, debated with himself and friends, and finally decided to vie for the honor.

White and Negro people alike suggested that he, who a little less than five years ago proved himself to his people and the nation in the effort he put forth for the political, social and economic rights battle for his people, was the man who should lead and represent them in minicipal affairs.

Solomon, in a recent interview, stated that he had no intentions of fighting a "hell for leather fight" of the survival of the fittest. He is running because he feels that the Negroes of Miami deserve and should enjoy sincere representation and that there has never been a single Negro in the present or past municipal government of this city.

Without a doubt, Solomon is the leader of his people throughout the state of Florida. He has put up many a good fight time after time for social and economic rights for Negroes. He is clement, yet a militant and determined fighter.

A few years back Solomon was president and founder of the Negro Citizens' Service league. At that time in defiance of threats on his life, violent opposition and a great loss of everything he possessed, he led 3,000 Miami Negroes to the polls to vote for their first time.

He lost a $25,000 a year business in putting this effort over for the resulting good for his people. He was not dismayed however. He is happy to know that they have the free use of the ballot and that he paved the way to the polls for them.

Formerly one of the city's leading undertakers, Solomon has ventured into a new field, that of journalism. He is the editor of the Miami Whip, a militant and fearless newspaper only 18 weeks old, but boasting a paid circulation of approximately 7,000.

FDR, WILLKIE FAVORED IN DIGEST POLL

Chicago, Illinois

Big Lead Held By 1940 Nominees Among Negro Voters

Chicago Defender

Favored presidential candidates of Negro voters for 1944 will be Franklin D. Roosevelt and Wendell Willkie, a comprehensive poll by the magazine, Negro Digest, published in Chicago at 3507 South Parkway, reveals in its current July issue.

A thorough canvass of Democratic and Republican sentiment shows preponderant support for both as standard-bearers for 1944. Virtually all voters agree that Roosevelt and Willkie have been pre-eminently fair and understanding on the Negro problem and have done more than any other two men in high government office to advance the cause of Negro rights.

Voters of both parties were asked: "Whom should Negroes favor for President in 1944?"

Separate lists of Democratic and Republican candidates were submitted with these results:

Democratic

Roosevelt	81%
Wallace	11%
McNutt	4%
Douglas	2%
Farley	1%
Winant	1%
Byrnes	0%

Republican

Willkie	68%
MacArthur	13%
Dewey	9%
Bricker	5%
Stassen	3%
Saltenstall	1%
Warren	0%

FDR Popular

The huge sentiment for the fourth term among Democrats was seen mainly as a carry over from the long time backing that the Roosevelt family — both the President and the First Lady — has enjoyed because of its precedent-shattering regard for the Negro during the New Deal administration.

The sample poll, taken after Liberian President Edwin Barclay's visit to the U. S., is also believed indicative of the support that the President has won due to his historic action in having a Negro sleep as a guest of the White House for the first time and address Congress for the first time.

The poll marks a definite comeback for Mr. Roosevelt among Negroes for his popularity had been waning since last year due to much unfavorable publicity in connection with the ruckus around the Fair Employment Practices committee, the jim crow setup in the army and navy and his efforts to appease southern bourbon elements on the race questions.

Willkie Supported

The preponderant support for Willkie is laid mainly to his unflinching pronouncements on the race question in the past year beginning with the NAACP convention in Los Angeles in 1942.

The GOP nominee of 1940 has strong, militant backers among the Negro population — many who expressed belief that he was the only Republican candidate who can swing the fence, and in several states decisive, Negro vote back into the GOP candidate.

A large number of voters mentioned his book, "One World," as an epochal statement which is a good omen for the future of the Negro throughout the world. His stand against imperialism especially drew favorable remarks.

The Negroes Speak Up

New York, N. Y New Masses



THE political statement issued by spokesmen for six million Negroes in this country last week is dynamite — it may well blow sky-high the aspirations of defeatist candidates in '44. The document is one of national and international importance, and all Americans owe a vote of thanks to the representatives of the twenty-six Negro organizations who drew it up. It exploded totally the dreams of those in Berlin and Tokyo who had speculated upon the possibility of detaching one-tenth of our citizenry from the war effort. For the first qualification a candidate must possess who seeks the Negro's vote is that he stand for "vigorous prosecution of the war." The Negroes serve notice that they will brook no candidate who seeks a "negotiated peace as advocated by the Hitler-like forces within our country."

The document indicated that the Negro people have achieved a high degree of unity, a factor which has great power at the ballot box. "We hereby serve notice," the signers say, "that the Negro has come of age politically." This will not go unnoticed by the aspiring political candidates who are also notified that they must deliver the goods; words cannot serve for '44. "The Negro vote can no longer be won by meaningless generalities in party platforms which are promptly forgotten on election day."

The Negroes outlined the deeds they require from the candidates and the "yardstick" they go by, as revealed in this statement, may well serve for all patriotic Americans. It outlines a program that will benefit the nation as a whole, in addition to furthering the just requirements of their own people. The aspirant for office must work for the rights of organized labor, for price control and rationing, for all the imperatives that all-out warfare demands. Although the Commander-in-Chief is unmentioned by name in the statement, the planks adopted by the Negroes parallel his policies, and require maximum support for the President.

Another factor of vital significance is this: the Negroes, having struck a new high in the unity of their own people, seek to extend national unity to its fullest. They offer the hand of cooperation to "enlightened labor, church, farm, and other groups to oppose actively the current wave of reaction." The document says, "we will combine in a minimum program with such enlightened groups. Together these groups constitute a majority of the electorate."

The outstretched hand of the Negro people should immediately be grasped by all patriotic Americans, particularly by organized labor, which likewise seeks to mobilize the people for victory in next year's crucial elections. The Negroes, in this document, have outlined a course for victory.

Negroes Join Drive For 1944 Election

JUL 29 1943 Daily Worker New York, N. Y

Supporters of President Roosevelt's war policies among the Negro people are beginning to organize for the critical 1944 elections.

Yesterday, Edward Strong, secretary of the National Negro Congress, issued a statement in which he urged Negro organizations to join with trade unions in a coalition against "reactionaries in both major parties."

"The demonstration of irresponsibility on the part of the 78th Congress," Strong said, "is a grave warning as to what is in store for us if reaction is successful in running the next conventions of the two major parties, and is able to seize control of the American government by running the next President."

He warned the Negro people that the anti-Roosevelt Democrats and the reactionary Republicans, "in Congress and out, are "working overtime in preparation for the 1944 election."

BASIS FOR UNITY

The program advanced by the Political Action Committee of the national CIO leadership was recommended by the National Negro Congress leader as "a good basis around which victory forces can unite."

Strong's statement followed a meeting of the Administrative Committee of the National Negro Congress, at which steps were taken to organize the Negro citizens of the nation for participation in the coming presidential battle.

These steps include a concerted drive to get every Negro citizen to register to vote this year; establishment of a coalition of Negro, labor and other groups that support the all-out war program of the Administration; and support of those candidates who back the President and who will work to "strengthen American democracy" through abolition of the poll tax and through support to the "basic rights of labor."

Emphasis on registration this year is of considerable significance since a great many Negro workers have migrated from the South to northern war centers. In some states where these centers are located, it is necessary for those who haven't voted in that state to signify intention to vote at least a year before the election. Moreover, enrollees in particular parties this year will cast the vote for delegates to the presidential nominating convention of their respective parties next spring.

In a few states, and in many cities, there are important elections this year, for which Negroes were urged to register by the Congress. Thus, in New York City, there is the important Councilmanic election, and there may be a state-wide race for Lieutenant Governor which will be one of the most important contests in the nation because it will indicate the trend since last fall, and may serve to unify the Roosevelt forces in preparation for '44.

The National Negro Congress activities on the election front are of considerable significance. In such decisive states as New York, Illinois, Michigan, where the issue is close and there is a large Negro electorate, the result may well depend on that electorate if it is highly unified.

Participation of the Negro in the New York councilmanic elections of 1943 can also have a decisive bearing on the results. Thus, in Brooklyn, where Communist Councilman Cacchione is well-known and highly respected among the Negro citizens for his persistent struggle against discrimination, his re-election may hinge on the extent to which the Negro citizens actually get out to register and vote.

Since there will be U. S. Senatorial elections in many states, the Negro vote will also affect the makeup of the next Upper House of Congress. There are also several congressional districts in the large cities where the issue can be determined by the extent of organization and education of the Negro voters. There are indications that in some of these districts the Negro people are going to demand representation by a Negro Congressman.

If the poll tax is lifted by the 1944 elections, and this is the goal of many of the supporters of federal anti-poll tax legislation, the organization of the Roosevelt forces among the Negro people will, of course, attain considerably greater importance. Republicans will attempt to break the "Solid South" through the use of the new Negro voters. Roosevelt forces will have to be well organized to acquaint the Negro people with the election issues.

General

Race Issue Politics Seen Behind Moves To Scuttle War Effort On Home Front

Defender, Chicago, Ill.

JUN 26 1943

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—In a bloodless, anti-racial, anti-administration revolution, the Southern bloc and the Republicans of the House of Representatives last week struck at the core of the war effort on the home front by eliminating or curtailing, through withholding and limiting appropriations, the National Youth Administration, the domestic branch of the Office of War Information, the Office of Price Administration, and the Office of Civilian Defense.

Though the race issue was the keynote of the Southern bloc's action, they kept it subdued, except in the argument against the OWI, in order to throw a protecting screen over the needed support from the "bottom-of-the-deck" deal of the Republicans.

The Southern bloc is still mad at Roosevelt for his humaneness and his past programs of trying to make possible an equitable participation of Negroes in American life, despite recent administration appeasement moves intended to make peace at the Negro's expense.

The appeasement tactics have failed in this instance as completely as did Chamberlain's appeasement of Hitler. The scuttling of the FEPC, the de-emphasizing of the Negro in favor of the Southern white "liberals" in advising the administration on matters affecting the welfare of Negroes, the sell-out of the new FEPC executive order in the approval of the Mobile segregation plan at the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding company, the vacillating and reactionary trend toward segregation in federally operated housing projects even in the North, the Army's slavish kow-towing to Southern jim-crow laws and customs despite its autonomy and control over military reservations—these and innumerable other appeasement offerings have been placed on the altar to the Southern bloc.

'Go-Ahead Signal'

But the Southern bloc, like Hitler, has felt these appeasements were their "go-ahead" signal, that they were a sign of weakness and vulnerability.

Like Hitler, too, the Southern bloc has launched out on a program of "white supremacy" to be accomplished despite hell and highwater, and even at the expense of losing the war.

The Republicans, still hopeful of successfully playing a "two-faced" game, are trying to live up to their marital vows with the Southern bloc to fight the Negro and still court the Negro's vote out the back door. They still think the Negro is the immature politician they led by the nose from 1865 to 1932.

Negroes are becoming more and more aware, however, that the only way the Republicans can live up to their marriage-of-convenience with the Southern bloc is to support the bloc in its anti-racial campaign. The cloak under which the Republicans claim to travel is not deceiving.

NYA Scuttled

The NYA, which was ordered liquidated by January 1, 1944, in the Labor-Federal Security Agency appropriation bill passed last week by the House, has been, until recently, the only means for Negroes in any sizeable numbers, to gain war production training for technical work in war industries. The state controlled vocational education program under the Office of Education was a "closed-shop" to them. Thousands of Negro boys and girls in all parts of the country, have been trained by NYA and placed in war jobs.

In the South, here Hitler's racial theories have been keeping Negroes from helping to produce the guns and ships and planes needed to win the war, NYA has been training Negro youth and shipping them to areas of labor shortage where they could contribute their acquired skills toward shortening the war and lessening the number of lives to be lost.

So, the NYA had to go! It made no difference that NYA was sending over 700 trainees every week into the manpower-starved war industries, both white and black youths, NYA had challenged, unwittingly, the South's tradition of keeping the Negro "in his place." It had to go.

That was neatly taken care of in the Appropriation committee of the House, and in the House Rules committee, both dominated by the Southern bloc and its brides-from-across-the-aisle. The House was not given a chance to amend the bill. The Rules committee took care of that.

Attack OWI Pamphlet

In scuttling the OWI, the lead was taken by race-baiting Joe Starnes of Alabama. He introduced the amendment calling for the dissolution of the domestic branch of the OWI. It was he who led the attacks in the appropriation subcommittee hearings on the funds for the National Housing Agency and the Federal Public Housing Administration against the race relations functions of those agencies. It was he who said he wanted to see no mixed housing projects anywhere in the United States—following which Administrator John B. Blandford cringed and refused to change a decision to make the Willow Run Housing project lily-white.

Rep. Allen, of Louisiana, let the cat out of the bag on the race issue involved when he declared that the propaganda put out by the OWI has done a great deal to foment unrest, and to create disunity, and to make the minority problem worse. "His referring to Elmer Davis) propaganda stuff has hurt the South," said Allen. "We have a serious racial problem in this nation. We in the South understand that problem and know best how to deal with it. We understand the psychology of the race problem. Davis had 2,500,000 copies of a certain pamphlet printed and sent everywhere. This was done with the taxpayers money. This pamphlet undertook to glorify one race in the war. We in the south wish to encourage that race. We are the best friends of that race. But such propaganda raises a race issue, which ought to be kept down. . . All over this country now we are having race riots, even in the North, and the type of propaganda which the OWI has been sending out certainly does not hold that situation down."

Based on this race issue, the Southern bloc, supported by the Republicans, scuttled the OWI, despite the fervid pleas and protests that such action would deprive the war effort of the coordinating activity which OWI had been giving to movie, radio and press in the dissemination of information in the interest of the war effort.

On the record vote, 160 Republicans voted for the amendment to kill the agency, only 5 Republicans voted against it. Of the 55 Democrats who voted for the amendment, all but 4 were from the Southern bloc.

Having supported the Southern bloc in their weird attacks, the Republicans then demanded their pound of flesh and gained support for amendments submitted by Rep. Everett Dirksen of Illinois and Rep. August H. Andresen of Minnesota, against the Office of Price Administration and Republican-sponsored amendments to reduce the appropriation of the Office of Civilian Defense after charges by Rep. Bradley of Michigan were made that the Civilian War Services Branch was a scheme to foster a fourth term for Roosevelt.

All these shenanigans were being carried on in the midst of war by a Congress which during the same week denied funds to the National Resources Planning Board and boasted that it would do the planning for the post-war period.

Is "Solid South" About To Fall Apart Over 1944 Elections?

Houston, Texas Informer

JUN 26 1943

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Is the Republican party going to accept the renegades and "carpet baggers" who are running from the Democratic party because of their grudge against Roosevelt? It looks as if the Republicans are going to have to accept these Roosevelt haters since it is a foregone conclusion that the President is going to run for a fourth term.

Feeling that the Roosevelts, both FDR and Eleanor, have done too much for the Negro in the United States, the hard-shelled southern Democrats are readying an exodus from the party which has nurtured them and kept them in their ignorant arrogance through the past 12 years, just because they can't stomach Roosevelt's sometime liberal attitude.

And their only hope is to blast Roosevelt out of the White House by joining up with the Republicans. Of course, the Republicans, hungry after 12 lean years, will welcome all the help they can get to win this election, but if the party accepts the aid of the renegades who are deserting the Democratic party, the Republicans will give themselves a black eye which will not be easy to overcome. They won't be able to keep Democrats from voting the Republican ticket, and the results will show just where the Democrats swung to the Republican.

This making use of the Republican party is typical of the general attitude of the South in racial matters. When some southerner falls out with his neighbor, the worst thing he can think of inflicting upon his enemy is to sell a house in the neighborhood of his enemy's home to a Negro. The same holds true in the political ring. Rather than see Roosevelt run and win again, these Democrats are willing to throw their support to the "damned Yankees" as northerners are called.

Many things have happened to irritate the professional southerner whose sole ambition in life is to keep the Negro from advancing. And the climax came in the recent Barclay visit to the United States. Notably absent from all functions, official and otherwise, was Tom Connally, chairman of the senate committee on foreign relations. In other instances, pictures were taken showing Mr. Connally very much in evidence with other distinguished visitors, among them the queen of the Netherlands, the fairer presidents of South American countries and Churchill. But when Barclay came, Connally vanished.

So to the Negro vote in 1944, Roosevelt looks for support in his ambitious fourth term program. Unless the Republicans forthrightly denounce the carpet bagging southerners who are running from progress; unless the Republicans show some liberalism themselves and indicate their true position, Mr. Roosevelt will have the Negro vote in his pocket, regardless of how many Negroes in Chicago voted for Sen. Wayland Brooks and how

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New Orleans (La.) Times-Picayune
November 2, 1943

ELECTION TODAY IN SEVEN STATES

Roosevelt-Willkie Contest on in New York

(The Associated Press)

Voters in seven states ballot today in off-year elections that will be studied closely for possible

To Raise Funds

Democrats will make raise funds for the unless national party dealing with Republikeites in Georgia," rman. J. Lon Duck- Georgia Democratic mittee Wednesday. e committee has re- ed requests" from the ittee for funds. The ee in its meeting here e no mention of na-

Ceases to Ra

In Georgia, Demo- efforts to raise inno 1944 campaign unles support of the administration.

From a Democratic standpoint, leaders "quit dealing with Wilkie and the Republicans and Democratic leaders of national disagreement concerns point of view.

South Carolina Democrats Cease Efforts To Enroll Negro Vote

When South Carolina's Democ- most solid states in the solid Southasserted Chairman cratic executive committee last week flatly refused to lend any financial support to the party's national campaign fund for 1944, tional campaign for 1944,95 per cent to 99 per cent plus, Committeeman Howard McCravy of Spartanburg county explained that

Democratic unanimity.

Democratic unanimity. Sen. Wayland Brooks and how

Democratic unanimity. Sen. Wayland Brooks and how

clues to 1944's political wars.

Women probably will have a major hand in the results. With many men voters in the armed services and others busy in war plants, housewives have the opportunity to get in the decisive licks.

In any event, the voting is expected to be lighter than it was in 1942, when the Republicans picked up nine seats in the Senate and 45 in the House and added three governorships.

Headliner on today's card is the race for lieutenant governor in New York, where rival candidates are backed by President Roosevelt on the one hand and by Wendell Willkie and Governor Thomas E. Dewey on the other.

Vying for national interest is the gubernatorial scrap in Kentucky, where Democrats are counting on turning in their usual heavy plurality; the election of a mayor in normally Republican Philadelphia, with President Roosevelt backing former Ambassador William C. Bullitt, Democratic candidate, and the gubernatorial race in New Jersey, where Republicans claim they will make their best showing.

Mississippi Race

Of less national significance is the election in Mississippi, where voters will formally name Democratic candidates for governor and other state offices; the selection of state legislators in the Democratic stronghold of Virginia, and the mayoralty fight in Detroit, which is being waged primarily on local issues stemming from recent race riots.

Sandwiched in with the regular Voters in Pennsylvania's 23rd Dis- to fill congressional vacancies. Voters in Pennsylvania's 23rd District will choose a successor to Representative James E. van Zandt, Altoona Republican, who is now in the armed forces, and New York's 32nd District will pick a replacement for Representative Francis D. Culkin, Republican, who died.

These are the principal contests:

New York—With the blessing of all Democratic factions—an unusual situation recently in New York campaigns—Lieutenant General William N. Haskell, 65-year-old retired army officer and Democrat, is seeking the lieutenant governor's post, left vacant by the death of Thomas W. Wallace, Republican. Opposing him, with the backing of Governor Dewey and Willkie, is State Senator Joe R. Hanley, 67, Republican.

New Jersey—Republicans contend they will put former Governor Walter E. Edge, Republican, back in the governor's chair by a margin of 150.000 votes. Democrats, however, are looking to a strong labor vote for their candidate, Vincent J. Murphy, Newark mayor and A. F. of L. labor executive endorsed by A. F. of L. President William Green. The retiring governor is Charles Edison, Democrat.

Kentucky Contest

Kentucky — Democrats express confidence of piling up a big margin in the gubernatorial race, but Republicans are claiming the vote will be close. The Democratic candidate is J. Lyter Donaldson, former state highway commissioner. His Republican opponent is Simeon S. Willis, former judge of the court of appeals.

Pennsylvania—Bullitt is running against Acting Mayor Bernard Samuel, Republican, in Philadelphia's hot mayoralty contest which has crowded into the background a statewide race for superior court judge and mayoralty campaigns in 27 smaller communities. Republicans captured the city by little more than 100 votes in the 1942 gubernatorial election.

Virtually on the eve of the election, President Roosevelt went to the support of Bullitt again by calling an attack on the former ambassador "a mass of falsehoods." The president expressed his views in a letter to a Philadelphia newspaper, commenting on a pamphlet, attributed to Republican sources, which criticized Bullitt's diplomatic activities abroad.

PM

'44 Political Important

Ban on Race Hate Urged

Two Senators Seek Pledge From Both Parties

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2.—Sens. Guy M. Gillette (D., Ia.) and W. Warren Barbour (R., N. J.) are pushing for an agreement between the two parties to bar race hatred from the 1944 campaign.

The plan, it is understood, was informally discussed at a meeting sponsored by the Co-operative Forum here last week.

Fair Election Code

At that session Gillette introduced Columnist Drew Pearson, who advocated a "fair election practices" accord between the two major parties as the basis for a campaign next year that would give a minimum of comfort to the racist theories of Adolf Hitler.

A large number of prominent Washington officials were reported to have responded favorably to the suggestion. Among those present were representatives of the War and Navy Depts. and other key agencies, as well as leading Congressional figures. In addition to Barbour and Gillette, Sen. Robert Taft (R., O.); Rep. Thomas Ford (D., Cal.) and Sen. Theodore Green (D., R. I.) participated in the meeting.

Seeks Bipartisan Ban

Moves for a bi-partisan ban on racial propaganda coincide with legislation already introduced by Gillette to expose and curb the use of racial prejudice in political contests. Gillette proposes the creation of an office of minority relations within the Dept. of the Interior to investigate hate-propaganda and require that all political handbills disclose the identity of the men or groups who issued them.

Anonymous hate-literature was circulated in both the Detroit and Philadelphia mayoralty races.

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

New York, N. Y

Seats Won In Elections

Election returns from over the nation in last Tuesday's elections found outstanding political aspirants capturing municipal posts. Other contests, with no Negro aspirants, were considered highly important to the general welfare. Associated Negro Press reports offer a picture of the results.

PERRY B. JACKSON DEFEATED IN CLEVELAND

CLEVELAND, Ohio—Perry B. Jackson, candidate to succeed himself as judge of the municipal court, was defeated by John E. Sweeney, former Ohio secretary of state, by 4,000 votes. John F. Morning was elected to the board of education. Three city councilmen, William O. Walker, 17th ward, Harold T. Gassaway, 18th ward, and Augustus G. Parker, 11th ward, were victors.

NORMAN ADAMS ELECTED TO 5TH CONSECUTIVE TERM

URBANA, Ohio, (ANP)—When citizens here voted in last Tuesday's election, they selected for the fifth consecutive year 38-year-old Norman K. Adams as councilman. Adams, the only Negro candidate whose name appeared on the ballot, was unopposed.

Councilman Adams has served for four years as chairman of the council's financial committee.

2 COLUMBUS CANDIDATES LOSE ELECTION

COLUMBUS, Ohio, (ANP) — Defeat of Atty. Edmund B. Paxton (D), candidate for one of two open municipal judgeships, came last week when his white opponent, Ben L. Pfefferie (R) won by an overwhelming majority.

Also the Rev. William H. Holloway, only Negro candidate for the board of education, lost. Four other candidates sought the same post.

PHILADELPHIA ELECTS THREE JUDGES

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — With the election of Hobson R. Reynolds and the reelection of Joseph H. Rainey to six-year terms in the minor judiciary, this city finds itself with three colored magistrates for the first time in its political history. The third magistrate is Edward W. Henry, Republican, who was not up for reelection.

James H. Irvin, West Philadelphia undertaker, retained his Republican seat in city council with 62,940 votes.

MAYOR JEFFRIES BACK INTO DETROIT OFFICE

DETROIT, Mich., (ANP) — Mayor J. Jeffries was back into office by a margin of 30,000 votes. Jeffries' majority dashed the political hopes of Frank Fitzgerald who entered the contest with labor and Negro backing.

Immediately after the return were in Jeffries issued a plea for "harmony and unity" in a radio broadcast.

"I sincerely hope," he said, "that if there has been bitterness engendered in this campaign, it will be quickly dissolved. As I said before the election, we need harmony and unity in Detroit during this critical period more than ever before in history."

THREE DEMOCRATS WIN IN PITTSBURGH ELECTIONS

DETROIT, Mich.—Harry Fitzgerald, Robert Williams, and Cumberland Posey were elected alderman, constable, and to the Homestead school board, defeating Lucius Davenport, William H. Tucker, and Jasper Washington, Republicans.

KENTUCKIAN ELECTED TO STATE LEGISLATURE

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Charles N Anderson Jr., incumbent, defeated his Democratic opponent for a third term in the state legislature. He is the first and only Negro member of that body.

9 NEGROES SEEK COUNCIL SEATS IN 2D AND 3D WARDS

Contests Among Old Rivals Focus Interest.

JAN 31 1943

BY HAROLD SMITH.

The struggle being waged by nine colored men for the 2d and 3d ward council seats took the center of the aldermanic election stage on the south side last week. There was some indication the field might be reduced before the withdrawal deadline next Wednesday.

In another south side ward, the 4th, two withdrawals last week left Ald. Abraham H. Cohen, first term Republican, unopposed for reëlection. Lawrence Ward, a tailor who was elected a G. O. P. senatorial committeeman in 1940, and A. Vincent Jordan, a telegraph operator, were the two who pulled out. The Democrats in the ward had indorsed no opponent against Cohen, now one of three aldermanic candidates with clear sailing ahead.

Feud Looms in Second.

Much interest focuses on the 2d ward battle because the sitting alderman, Earl B. Dickerson, installed in the council by the city hall crowd four years ago, has been thrust aside by the organization headed by his arch-enemy, Congressman William L. Dawson, former Republican whom Dickerson helped unseat in the 1939 campaign. Dawson had been alderman two terms.

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Because Dickerson has not been amenable enough to suit the strict obedience demands of the Kelly-Nash bosses, Dawson was permitted to swing the ward organization indorsement to his secretary and acting Democratic ward committeeman, William H. Harvey, a city fireman on leave of absence.

Split May Help Atkins.

Dickerson is running against the machine candidate, as he did in the 1st district primary that nominated Dawson last spring. Thus there looms a strong possibility of a split in the Democratic vote wide enough to enhance the prospect for the candidate backed by Committeeman William E. King and his strong G. O. P. organization. That man is Mack Atkins, 47 years old, an undertaker.

Atkins is well and favorably known thruout the ward. He was a candidate for sanitary district trustee in the 1940 Republican primary, receiving 92,677 votes but failing of nomination by a narrow margin. He has long been active in the G. O. P. ward organization, upon which he can count for strong effort in the election Feb. 23, or the runoff on April 6, if one is necessary.

There is one candidate besides Dickerson, Harvey, and Atkins. He is Jacob R. Tipper, weekly newspaper publisher who was elected delegate to the Republican national convention in 1940.

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Runoff Predicted in 3d.

A runoff is predicted in the 3d ward, where former Congressman Oscar De Priest is the principal G. O. P. contender for the seat occupied by Ald. Benjamin A. Grant. De Priest is the Republican war committeeman and Grant is a former precinct captain of his who beat De Priest in the 1939 aldermanic runoff by a vote of 16,328 to 12,205.

Ald. Grant is beset by strife within the Democratic ward organization to which he owes his election, whereas the De Priest strength this year is highly concentrated. Several of the most outstanding colored leaders of the 3d ward have already declared for De Priest.

County Commissioner Edward M. Sneed is the Democratic committeeman of the 3d ward. One of the candidates is Roy L. Washington, an assistant prosecutor for the city, who for three years was president of Sneed's organization, succeeding Grant in that capacity. It was reported last week that the Democratic workers in the ward were about evenly split between Grant and Washington.

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De Priest Chances Look Good.

Grant, who succeeded the late Robert R. Jackson in the council, is personally popular in the ward but has been criticized for not championing the Negro cause more vigorously. He has his own ward headquarters, from which he is directing his campaign. It appears likely that Grant will be forced into a supplementary election, in which De Priest would have an excellent chance of election.

The two other 3d ward candidates besides Ald. Grant, De Priest and Washington, are Marco Killings, a druggist who in the past has been identified with both the Republican and Democratic parties, and Zedrick T. Braden, attorney who filed for alderman against Jackson in 1933 but withdrew before the election.

Circular Charges Brutality To Negro By Democrats

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Circulated among Negro voters here in yesterday's election were orange-colored handbills purporting to tell the story of Mrs. Julia Woods, Negro, "who," the handbills said, "was dragged from her home on Chestnut Street, and brutally and unmercifully beaten by two white Democratic police officers."

Jouett Ross Todd, chairman of the Republican City and County Committee as well as Republican Third Congressional District campaign chairman, disclaimed for the Republican organization any responsibility for the printing or circulation of the handbills.

'Old Deal' Is Charged.

Todd said he had not previously seen one of the dodgers but had seen a picture of Mrs. Woods as printed in an advertisement carried in the Louisville Defender, a Negro newspaper. John S. Petot, treasurer of the Republican City and County Committee, also disclaimed for the organization any responsibility for the handbills.

The handbills carried the following text wrapped around the picture, taken after the alleged beating of Mrs. Woods:

"The Democratic 'old deal' to Negro citizens of Louisville. This can happen to you. She paid a $5 fine for being beaten in her own home. It happened under the Democrats in 1927. It happened again in 1943. Next time it may be your home, your wife or your child.

"Mrs. Julia Woods who was dragged from her home on Chestnut Street, and brutally and unmercifully beaten by two white Democratic police officers under the present Democratic City Administration and then given a $5 fine by a Democratic police judge for disorderly conduct in her own home.

'Insure Yourself.'

"Insure yourself, your wife, your children and your home against police brutality. It's time to change. Vote the straight Republican ticket next Tuesday, November 2. It's your duty."

The advertisement in the Defender to which Todd referred was printed on green Page 12 of the paper's Saturday, October 30, edition. The advertisement was similar to the circular, in that it carried the picture and the text of the circular, but was different in that it carried an announcement of the Republican rally at the Armory Saturday night.

Seeing one of the handbills, Mayor Wilson W. Wyatt said their circulation was "one of the lowest political tricks I ever heard of. It was direct appeal to racial

State Negroes Assured Seat In Legislature

SEP 19 1943
Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Kentucky Negroes are assured of representation in the State House of Representatives when the General Assembly convenes early next year.

The reason is that two outstanding Negroes are seeking election as Representative from the 42d Legislative District in Louisville—Charles W. Anderson, Jr., 1715 W. Ormsby, Republican incumbent, and the Rev. W. Augustus Jones, 1651 Hale, pastor of the Fifth Street Baptist Church, his Democratic opponent.

Anderson, first Negro to take oath of office as a member of the Kentucky Legislature and the first Negro legislator in the South since Reconstruction rule, was elected first in 1935 from the old 58th District, abolished by state-wide redistricting. He has served four consecutive two-year terms.

Campaign Opens Friday.

Anderson plans to open his campaign Friday at the headquarters at 20th and Chestnut and will make appeal for re-election, principally on his past record in the Legislature and on his efforts to enact legislation to bring domestic servants under provision of the State Wage and Hour Law.

Jones has announced that if elected he intends to introduce a bill proposing a constitutional amendment to alter the method of electing Louisville aldermen Jones proposes that aldermen be elected individually from each ward, instead of all twelve candidates running in the city at large.

Anderson said he intends to sponsor legislation similar to the Sullivan Act of New York, which prohibits, by a stiff penalty, the carrying of deadly weapons as a means of decreasing crime in Louisville and other sections of the state.

During his eight years in the Legislature Anderson has fought and has secured legislation appropriating funds [illegible] Negro youths desiring courses of study in higher education not provided within the state; providing high school educations for Negro youth of all counties; repealing the Public Hanging Law, and permitting schoolteachers to marry after five years' teaching experience.

Opposed Whipping Post.

He opposed successfully a bill to create a public whipping post in misdemeanor cases and successfully backed legislation to improve traveling conditions for Negroes on railroads and in taxicabs.

He was awarded in 1938 the Lincoln Institute Key by the Kentucky Negro Educational Association for making the greatest contribution toward the advancement of Negroes in Kentucky. In 1941 he was honored by citizens of Chicago in recognition of his work in a Southern legislative body.

Bar Election Viewed as an NAACP Defeat

Baltimore, Md.
Afro-American

BALTIMORE. — The behind-the-scenes maneuvering to elect Charles W. Anderson, the Kentucky legislator, president of the National Bar Association, represented a move by some of the members to thwart "NAACP control" of the association, insiders reported.

In close balloting, Anderson defeated Charles H. Houston of Washington, special NAACP counsel, 51 to 47.

Dr. Houston was nominated by Earl Dickerson and supported Mrs. Georgia Ellis, George Davis, Baltimore; A. C. Gilbert, New York; Thurgood Marshall and Judge W. H. Hastie.

Mr. Houston was referred to as a "social engeneer," and Mr. Anderson as a "successful administrator."

Negro Voters Tip Scale To Elect Willis

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Kentucky Gubernatorial Victory Shows Trend In Nation, Reports Say

By JULIUS J. ADAMS
(Photo on Page 7)

Governor-elect Simeon E. Willis of Kentucky was in New York last week following his slashing victory in the Blue Grass state which put a Republican in the executive Mansion at Frankfort for the first time since 1927. He will be 64 years old December 1.

This notable victory, considered by many to be a barometer of the national trend, was achieved with the almost solid support of Kentucky's Negro voters, who throughout the state were on the Willis bandwagon. At least two nationally known Republicans took part in the campaign. They were Roscoe C. Simmons, who became a "colonel" after participating in a previous Kentucky campaign, and one-time congressional candidate from Illinois; and Perry W. Howard, national committeeman from Mississippi.

In his home town of Ashland the Negro voters went down the line for Judge Willis. The same was true in Louisville, (Jefferson County) where there is a large block of Negro votes and in numerous other communities. These blocks are the balance of power in the state.

"Good Government" Campaign

The "Good Government" campaign and the drive to rid the state of the old machine attracted Negroes and whites alike, the governor said. He paid high tribute to Negroes for the part they played in his election, and said he was certain they shared equally in proportion to their numbers in the majority of 8,600 which made his election possible.

The governor-elect, a native of Ohio, but who spent most of his life in Kentucky, spoke freely during an interview in his suite in the Waldorf-Astoria Saturday afternoon. He was in a happy mood and bade us cut loose with the questions.

A tall, well-built man with a full head of iron-grey hair and a sharp pleasant face, the governor-elect neither talks nor looks like a man most people like to think a Southerner looks and talks like. More than that he hasn't any of the reticence North[illegible] like to ascribe to Southerners, and when he greets his guest his manner is more like that of a friend than a politician. His handshake is firm and warm. He knows how to make friends and influence people.

The governor-elect is alert, possesses a keen sense of humor, and has a prodigious memory.

He exhibited his alertness when he quickly and adroitly shifted the conversation as the questioning drifted to 1944 and the Presidency. He displayed his humor when he cracked to the protographer: "Be careful not to get a side view or somebody might mistake me for Jimmy Durante." He showed his remarkable memory by immediately recognizing Robert J. Foster, a friend whom he hadn't seen for 30 odd years.

Judge Willis declined to discuss any Presidential possibilities and, taking a leaf from the book of New York's Thomas E. Dewey, he said:

"I shall devote the next four years to serving my state as governor."

On the question of the Presidency he said he considered it too early to say what was going to happen, and that he would rather not comment.

What About Race Relations?

Governor-elect Willis, who from 1928 to 1933 was a member of Kentucky's highest tribunal, the Court of Appeals, declared that throughout the state the relationship between the races has constantly been very good.

"Our greatest trouble now," he said, "is to find Negroes who have the time to devote to the work we are doing in the field of race relationship, in the educational programs."

He explained that many Negroes are engaged in war work and are doing a fine job.

What About the Poll Tax?

Judge Willis said in Kentucky they have what is known as a head tax, but it has nothing to do with elections. It is a tax levied on citizens to support the schools. He did not comment on the anti-poll tax bill now pending in Congress, but he did say there is no indication that Negroes, by being able to vote in his state, have made any attempt to "take over the government."

His Program for Negroes

The governor-elect explained that the watchword of his campaign was "good government," and that he found that Negroes and whites alike who supported him would be impractical to establish a high school in Kentucky. "We propose these areas," he said. "We propose to provide the funds for these separate schools, true enough," he said, "but we require equal training for all teachers, and the state pays equal pay for equal work re-12 in the lower schools. The governor said.

Judge Willis was high in his praise of Rep. Charles H. Anderson, son, Negro veteran member of the state legislature. He spoke of him as being "very able. I think he is a good man,"

The governor-elect said they were in his that the legislature will necessarily be hostile to the administration's program.

When he takes over the administration of the state government, the Republican governor will have to work with a legislature in which Democrats have a majority of 12 in the lower house, and a major[illegible] in the senate. This he said, the governor said, doesn't mean,

Man Who Fiddled While Hoodlums Slew 35 Victims:

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

Detroit Negro Voters Forsake Riot Mayor Jeffries

DETROIT—Negro voters of this city jubilantly went to the polls in last week's primaries, assisted by labor votes, and snowed under the bid for re-election of riot mayor Edward Jeffries, giving his opponent a 37,000 lead. Analysts of the astonishing vote reversal attributed the landslide to Negro resentment against Jeffries for his supine handling of the June 20 rioting here,

aided by labor support for the labor candidate opposing Jeffries, John Fitzgerald. Jeffries has won two previous elections for mayor of this city, by a whooping two-to-one majority, and had been counted a sure fire winner this trip out, until the ballots came thundering in to wash him out by the huge majority.

In his previous campaigning, Jeffries had had almost unanimous support from both labor and the Negro vote. His unexpected snowing under is believed to be a direct slap by both labor and the Negro vote, due to his failure to take any positive action in the rioting, which claimed some 35 Negro lives and resulted in the jailing of hundreds of Negroes, while whites were freed from prosecution. Pictures taken during the rioting mobilized sentiment in favor of the Negroes, showing plainly that whites were the aggressors.

Mayor Jeffries was severely castigated during subsequent investigations, for his failure to take any definite and positive action to quell the rioting, or to bring to justice those responsible. Negroes felt that the mayor sided with white hoodlums believed responsible for the rioting.

Results of the voting, which gave Fitzgerald the 37,000 majority and which places Jeffries a poor second in the running, are:

- there are 150,000 Negro voters in this city;
- to a man they were dead set against Jeffries for this handling of the rioting;
- in Negro voting areas, down in Black Bottom where the rioting took place, on the swank West Side, in other isolated Negro districts, voting ran along these lines;
- 189-12, 112-1, 259-5, 148-13.

With the fatal primaries coming up next month, Jeffries political advisers are in a frantic huddle, trying to stem the tide agianst their man, who appears doomed to certain and determined defeat, solely as a result of his spineless stand in the June rioting. Those most hopeful think that many of Jeffries' supporters stayed away from the polls last week because their man's previous strength indicated that he could not be beat on this trip out. Now that the returns are in, their optimism is waning, and feverish campaigning is going on apace.

Detroit's Race-Baiting Mayor Reelected--Not by Negroes

Call
Kansas City, Mo

DETROIT — (ANP) — Autocracy won over democracy, race hate defeated tolerance, disunity triumphed over harmony in the most acrimonious mayoralty election ever witnessed in this city of high racial tension — an election that swept incumbent race riot Mayor Edward J. Jeffries back into office by a margin of 30,000 votes. Jeffries' majority dashed the political hopes of Frank Fitzgerald who entered the contest with labor and Negro backing.

"Hatelers" Too Powerful

Immediately after the returns were in Jeffries, who himself campaigned upon a platform of racial vituperation, issued plea for "harmony and unity" in a radio broadcast.

"I sincerely hope," he said, "that if there has been bitterness engendered in this campaign, it will be quickly dissolved. As I said before the election, we need harmony and unity in Detroit during this critical period more than ever before in history."

During the early part of the election Fitzgerald ran up an impressive lead over Jeffries, but when the outlying precincts of the city began to report his margin started its shrinking process so that latest tallies showed Jeffries with a total of 207,000 to Fitzgerald's 175,000. Negro voters, remembering that Jeffries was disgraced and inept in office during the June 21 race riots and that his police force shot to death 29 Negroes, most of them in the back, swung their ballots to Fitzgerald. The UAW-CIO gave the former law professor $29,000 for his campaign and pledged an additional $10,000, but the Jeffries van-guard of "hatelers" were too powerful to stem the tide of justice and decency.

Negroes Accused of Riot

While Jeffries took the air in the campaign and accused Negroes of starting the riots and hinted at an uprising among them to massacre whites, inflammatory literature from an undisclosed source was being circulated in white neighborhoods to strike fear in their already fascist hearts.

Jeffries said that the UAW-CIO and the Negroes have entered into a conspiracy to overthrow the government and take charge of city hall." He called upon loyal, patriotic white Americans to prevent this allegedly planned coup. Every daily paper in the city supported Jeffries and printed advertisements and articles designed to incite race hate.

Further evidence that native born fascists were actively engaged in the campaign was seen in an election statement by the defeated Fitzgerald, who charged that Jeffries was disgraced and inept in office during the June 21 race riots and that his police force shot to death 29 Negroes, most of them in the back, swung their ballots to Fitzgerald. The UAW-CIO gave the former law professor $29,000 for his campaign and pledged an additional $10,000, but the Jeffries van-guard of "hatelers" were too powerful to stem the tide of justice and decency.

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Continue to Arouse Hate

"From this headquarters emanate the inflammatory cards, pamphlets and other printed matter which have been littering the streets since the primaries and which are being distributed around schools, all of it openly designed to arouse hate as a means of helping Jeffries' candidacy.

"Additional rooms have been secretly taken over by other former Klansmen, unbeknown of course to the hotel management. They have [illegible] system of code names for telephone calls. They have branch offices in the downtown district to which they refer persons who ask for a supply of their propaganda.

"We thought we had put an end to this dirty business when the Black Legion was wiped out. It remained for the Jeffries campaign of hate and prejudice and intorerance to give it a new start. There can be no permanent peace in Detroit so long as this element organizes to influence elections. Its activities are but a further guarantee of further violence."

Vernon Finley, Detroit traffic court clerk, reached at the hotel denied Klan activity in the mayoralty, but admitted he was "off from his public duties" to work with some "leading Catholic organizations" to advance the election of Jeffries." Finley denied he had talked to James A. Colescott of Atlanta, grand wizard of the Klan within the last three years, but said he had attended recent meetings run by Father Charles E. Coughlin and Gerald L. K. Smith. He said he had not discussed the political campaign with them, however.

OCT 23 1943
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Chicago, Ill.

Detroiters Hit Langston Hughes As Speaker

FEB 25 1943

DETROIT, Apr. 22—(ANP)—Claiming that the famed poet, Langston Hughes, is an "atheistic communist, a self-confessed communist and a notorious blasphemous poet," the America First party of which Gerald L. Smith is national director, Wednesday noon protested against his appearance as convocation speaker at Wayne university.

FEB 25 1943

Around 100 members of the organization formed a picket line in front of the university and marched back and forth waving the American flag, and distributed literature condemning the school officials for permitting Hughes to appear on program at Wayne which is supported by tax-paying citizens.

FEB 25 1943

Hit Incitement in Detroit Elections

The Worker
New York, N. Y
(Special to The Worker)

DETROIT.—Since the recent primary, the citizens of Detroit have witnessed one of the most vicious and slanderous campaigns ever conducted in this industrial war center. Desperate for votes and throwing all considerations of the welfare of the city and the country aside, Mayor Edward J. Jeffries has launched a race-baiting, labor-hating drive in an attempt to split the community wide open, pitting class against class and race against race.

Enlivened by the entry of the CIO and the AFL into the mayoralty campaign, the primary election saw Frank FitzGerald, known as a liberal and pro-Roosevelt man, pile up a huge majority over incumbent, Mayor Jeffries in a surprisingly large vote. FitzGerald drew support from the entire city as church, political, fraternal, national group and social organizations joined labor and the Negro people to bring him victory.

At a time when the unity of all people of Detroit is of the greatest importance Jeffries is waging a campaign aimed to split the people, create confusion and misunderstanding in order to be elected. He nas rallied around himself all sorts of anti-labor, red-baiting, Negro-hating elements.

One of the best examples of this is the ardent support he has received from the pro-fascist and anti-United Nations clique among the Polish Americans. He reciprocated by attending an anti-Soviet rally by them.

On the other hand, one of the broadest Polish-American Committees ever created has endorsed FitzGerald and the primary vote indicated the overwhelming support he enjoys among the Americans of Polish descent.

Jeffries has the support of the three metropolitan dailies which are devoting considerable space to his candidacy and editorially echoing his slanderous charges against labor and the Negro people.

His scurrilous attacks upon the Negro people have alarmed many of the leading citizens of Detroit. The Michigan CIO **News** calls his radio speeches "riot breeding." The AFL **Labor News** charges that Jeffries is dodging the main issues by raising the smokescreen of minority control of the city. "Our Mayor seems now headed for another race riot in an effort to hold on to the Chief Executive's chair . . ." it states as it calls his campaign "disgraceful and dangerous."

Similar expressions have appeared in the Wayne County **Democrat**, organ of the New Dealers in the state.

RACIAL PREJUDICE

An editorial in the Michigan **Chronicle**, most influential Negro paper in the state, characterized Jeffries' campaign most aptly as follows:

"Rebuked by the majority of voters in the primary election, the Mayor has chosen to get down to his knees and attempt to crawl back into office through the muck and mire of racial prejudice. It is a revolting spectacle which offends the sensibilities even of those who bore him no malice and wished him well."

Father Lawrence Cavanaugh, leading Catholic churchman issued a statement to the press signed by many outstanding community leaders who are members of the Greater Detroit Inter-racial Fellowship warning against the consequences of such a campaign. It urged all candidates to "refrain from seeking political support in a way that entails the risk of arousing racial animosities.

"We are of the firm conviction that the decent citizens of Detroit will join with us in protesting and rejecting all such appeals to racial hatreds," it concluded.

It is understood that the Inter-Racial Committee composed of six prominent Negroes and six white leaders appointed by Mayor Jeffries following the bloody anti-Negro insurrection to bring peace and understanding will resign in a body on the ground that everything the Mayor is doing is directly opposite to the tasks of this committee.

COMMUNISTS ANSWER

One of the first to reply to Jeffries' race-baiting was the Communist Party which stated that responsibility for another anti-Negro riot would rest on his head.

Looking at the FitzGerald campaign, political observers have indicated that it has some weaknesses which could be eliminated. His campaign has been weakened to the degree that he failed to properly answer the demagogic charge that he is a minority candidate. FitzGerald has not gone beyond the simple statement that he is not the candidate of any particular group.

This, of course, was fully borne out in the primary when he carried 19 wards out of 22 and 85 per cent of the precincts, but his campaign does not reflect that.

Many of his supporters are disturbed by the silence of their candidate on some of the most burning issues of the day like housing, delinquency, taxation, although he has planks in his platform dealing with them.

Recent statements made by FitzGerald regarding his opposition to bi-racial housing and indicating his attitude toward the Negro people have aroused considerable concern in labor, Negro and progressive circles supporting him. Reacting immediately, delegations representing various organizations and groups have visited FitzGerald urging him to clarify his position and to take a correct stand.

It is felt that if he would speak out clearly on all of these issues, he would reach a larger number of people whose votes would assure him of an overwhelming victory.

In the primary, the CIO had endorsed but one candidate—George Edwards an incumbent labor man. It has now voted endorsement for Edward A. Simmons, leading Negro attorney who ran thirteenth and who has advanced one of the most complete programs of action; Fred C. Castator, AFL official; Helen Bryant, only woman candidate nominated, running twelfth and three incumbents, John C. Lodge, Eugene I. Van Antwerp and Henry S. Sweeney.

Detroit Mayoralty Campaign PM Revives Racial Hatred

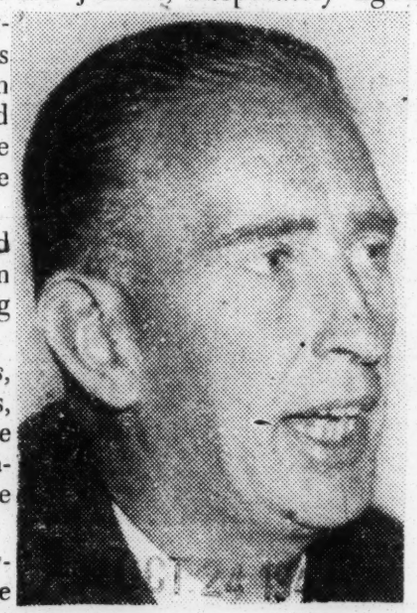
Jeffries Accuses UAW and Negroes Of Trying to 'Take Over City'

New York, N. Y. *Special Correspondence*

PM Exclusive

DETROIT, Oct. 23.—Racial prejudices have been loosed in Detroit's current Mayoralty campaign, with fear mounting in responsible sources that the city will be lucky to avoid more race riots before election day, Nov. 2.

The incumbent mayor, Edward Jeffries, desperately fighting to keep alive a promising political career, has charged that efforts to prevent his re-election are in reality a joint move by the United Automobile Workers, CIO, and the Negro population to "take over the city."



Edward J. Jeffries

Edward Fitzgerald, CIO and Negro-supported candidate, has in turn accused the Mayor of raising un-American, racial issues.

Thursday the Detroit *Free Press*, in a big-type editorial, declares, "both Negroes and whites are equally guilty in this bloody conspiracy . . . to influence the vote in the Mayoralty election."

Detroit's nerves have not recovered from the race riots of last June which took at least 34 lives, Negro and white, and the course of the Mayoralty campaigning has not improved the situation.

Opposition to Jeffries on the part of the city's large Negro population was a certainty following the race riots and his failure to have the police department do an effective job. Subsquently, when Jeffries charged that Negro hoodlums were chiefly responsible for bringing on the riots, the opposition to Jeffries took the form of bitter cries for revenge.

Meanwhile, Detroit labor had reasons of its own for opposing Jeffries. Both CIO and AFL unions regard him as weak and vacillating, and as unfair toward city employees. When labor agreed to run Fitzgerald for Mayor, the Negroes naturally also swung behind him.

The primary campaign was mainly an affair in which the Detroit *News* accused the CIO of attempting to "buy its way into power in Detroit." The basis of this charge was a contribution by the UAW-CIO of $20,000 to the Fitzgerald campaign fund, and a promise of $10,000 more by local unions. The Detroit *News* succeeded only in bringing CIO voters to the primary polls, and when the ballots were counted Fitzgerald had 98,000 to Jeffries' 60,000.

Stunned by the unexpected defeat, the first in his some fifteen years of public life, Jeffries reacted with open attacks on labor and the Negroes. He raised the spectre of "minority groups" taking over City Hall. Day after day, since the primary, he has accused the Negroes of principal responsibility for the race riots of last June and has urged voters to "prevent" them from taking over City government, if not aggressive, record of uncompromising friend of labor, the Negroes of all people who ded protection from the powers t dominated Detroit when it s the No. 1 open-shop, anti-labor n in the country.

Today, however, Jeffries, through

political necessity, has thrown in his lot with the forces whom his father frequently excoriated and regularly fought, both in private and in his long years as a Detroit office-holder and judge.

Fitzgerald has tried to take the edge off the accusation that he is the Negro's candidate by offering to appoint as Police Commissioner the present Police Superintendent, Berg, who was in charge of the police during the race riots.

R. J. Thomas, president of the UAW-CIO, has disclaimed any intention on labor's part to seek exclusive domination of the Detroit city government. Wednesday night the CIO gave endorsements to seven candidates for City Council, one of them a laborite and one a Negro.

Further agitating business and "upper class" elements in the "Dynamite City" is the feeling that the Detroit election is a test of labor's ability to mobilize political power in the 1944 national elections. To a great extent this is true, adding further extreme partisanship to a campaign already overcharged with heat and passion.

Riot Fears Grip Detroit As Election Nears

Norfolk, Virginia

Negro Voters Line Up To Defeat Mayor Jeffries

DETROIT, Mich. — Stung by an unexpected defeat in the recent primary, Mayor Edward Jeffries who gained an unsavory reputation in the Detroit riots, has fanned the smoldering racial tension here to a point where a new outbreak is imminent, by charging that the Negro population and the United Automobile Workers, in an effort to prevent his reelection, are in reality bent upon taking over the city.

Edward Fitzgerald, CIO and Negro-supported candidate, has in turn accused the mayor of raising un-American, racial issues.

TAUT NERVES

Although the city, on the surface, has been quiet since the June riots which took at least 34 lives, Negro and white, there has continued an undercurrent of taut nerves.

Negroes, not only in Detroit, but throughout the country have charged that the large proportion of Negro casualties suffered during the riots in comparison with those suffered by whites was due to Mayor Jeffries' failure to have the police department do an effective job.

There are more than 600,000 registered voters, and Jeffries' strategy has obviously been to capitalize on the fear and prejudices of anti-Negro and anti-labor Detroiters.

Labor Nominee In Detroit Polls Large Vote

Louisville, Ky. Courier-Journal

Detroit, Oct. 6 (AP)—A lively mayorality campaign was predicted today as voters in this war production city nominated Edward J. Jeffries, Jr., incumbent, and Frank Fitzgerald, Labor candidate, as opponents in the November 2 election.

Fitzgerald, endorsed by both the United Automobile Workers, (C.I.O.) and the Detroit Federation of Labor, piled up a heavy lead over Jeffries from the beginning and maintained it throughout the balloting.

Strong Negro and Labor support, joined with a general showing that surprised even the candidate himself, gave Fitzgerald 97,548 votes, or almost half the total cast. Jeffries received 59,945.

The total vote of 198,984 was about normal for an off-year municipal primary, although 622,780 Detroiters were qualified to vote.

Fear Blankets Detroit as City Goes to Polls

PM

New York, N. Y.

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
Staff Correspondent

DETROIT, Mich., Nov. 2.—As the voters march on the polls today to vote in the Mayoralty campaign, Detroit is a city beset by fear.

From the people I saw today came the single foreboding thought:

"If only we can get over this election without trouble."

The betting odds on the incumbent, Mayor Edward J. Jeffries, and his opponent, Frank FitzGerald, are about even. Political opinion here is that Jeffries' victory depends on a vote greater than 400,000. A small vote would result in a triumph for FitzGerald, candidate of the Labor-Liberal-Negro groups here, who beat Jeffries in last month's primary by 38,000 votes.

Deep Passions

But the wounds of this hate campaign will be a long time healing. The hammering away each day by Jeffries himself and his supporters, and by FitzGerald and his supporters, on the Negro issue has unleashed deep-seated passions. Its effects will be visible in Detroit for months to come.

The best evaluation of Detroit's predicament today came from Douglas Martin, managing editor of the Detroit *Free Press*. Along with the Detroit *Times*, the Hearst papers, and the Detroit *News*, which unofficially has been managing Jeffries' campaign, the *Free Press*—there are only three papers in America's fourth largest city—has been backing Jeffries.

"For four years," said Martin, "we have been criticizing Jeffries. We would have supported any strong man opposing him. We have said in our editorials we didn't like either one and we don't like Jeffries any better today than when the campaign opened. Fitzgerald we figured was so weak he wasn't as good as Jeffries."

Martin made this statement after I learned that an advertisement incorporating a pro-Fitzgerald speech made by Milton Murray, president of the American Newspaper Guild, CIO, had been rejected by all three papers. Murray is a reporter on the Detroit *Times*.

The ad was originally offered to the *Times*, which turned it down. Then it was offered to the *News*, which at first accepted it but then changed its mind. And the *Free Press* turned it down, according to Martin, "because it wasn't truthful and it didn't represent *Free Press* reasoning on the campaign."

WWJ, Detroit's Red Network station, which at first approved a transcription of Murray's speech for broadcast, refused it. It was finally broadcast over WJR, Columbia's outlet here.

Fitzgerald had charged earlier that Jeffries was receiving support from an allegedly camouflaged version of the Ku Klux Klan known as the United Sons of America.

An FBI spokesman refused comment on FitzGerald's request for an investigation of his charges.

Propaganda Drive

Meanwhile, the hate campaign emanating from both headquarters evoked an anonymous propaganda drive in Paradise Valley, Detroit's Harlem, calling upon Negroes to abstain from voting for either candidate. Campaign statements by Jeffries and FitzGerald in which both agreed they were opposed to bi-racial housing were reprinted in leaflets circulated throughout Paradise Valley in a last-minute attempt to split the Negro vote for FitzGerald.

An advertisement by local civic clubs supporting FitzGerald was published in all three papers. In it was reproduced a letter sent by Jeffries to the Federal Works Agency a month before the Sojourner Truth riot in February, 1942, in which he asked that Negro defense workers be permitted to live in the project.

The headline over the letter reads:

"Who Forced a Negro Housing Project Into a White District?

". . . Here's *your* letter Mr. Jeffries, as Mayor of Dertoit, urging Negro occupancy of a public housing project in a white neighborhood."

The attempt by some white residents of Inkster, near Detroit, to secede from the village because of a threatened influx of Negro families, was forestalled today following issuance of an injunction by the Circuit Court.

The issue had been expected to come up yesterday before the Wayne County Board of Supervisors, which was to have voted permission for the Inkster population to hold a plebiscite on whether they should detach themselves from the village and start a new, all-white community.

The injunction was issued to a United Auto Workers, CIO, local, the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People and Inkster taxpayers who initiated the action.

Voters in Detroit Flock to Precincts

New York, N. Y. People's Voice

DETROIT (By Wire)—With the police department on the alert for any eventuality, the voters, black and white, are flocking to the polls and early reports from scattered precincts indicate that the vote will be twice as large as in the primary.

Of the 400,000 citizens who are expected to cast their ballots today, nearly 60,000 will be Negroes, according to election observers. Both candidates for mayor expressed confidence in victory. At the eleventh hour, candidate Frank Fitzgerald charged that Mayor Jeffries is accepting with open arms the support of the Ku Klux Klan and its front organizations. He disclosed that former klansmen are operating a "poison factory" in a downtown hotel room, flooding the city with anti-Negro, pro-fascist campaign literature in support of the re-election of Mayor Jeffries.

Both the Negro leaders and labor leaders have charged that Mayor Jeffries has distorted the campaign issues and resorted to Negro and labor-baiting in order to save his political neck.

Mayor Jeffries charges that Negroes and labor are trying to dominate the city and seize political power for their own selfish

—Michigan Chronicle, Detroit

NOV 6 1943

have been no reports of violence and election officials do not expect any, despite the tensions which the campaign has produced.

52a-1943

Mississippi

Negro Baiter Meets Defeat In Mississippi

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

JACKSON, Miss. — The "white supremacy" gubernatorial candidate, Lester Franklin, friend of Negro-baiting Theodore Bilbo, met with smashing defeat in the Mississippi primaries last Tuesday, coming last in a field of four.

Polling only 35,000 votes to former Gov. Sennett Conner's 106,000, Franklin surpassed all records in his white supremacy campaign in speeches which indicated what Negroes might expect were he to win.

"I want it understood," he said, "that when I am governor and a black brute so far forgets his place as to commit rape upon a white woman, and the outraged public interferes with his civil liberties by taking his life at the end of a rope, I shall rely solely upon the state courts to deal with those guilty if they can be so proven. I will not bring the matter to the attention of the FBI and request its intervention as was recently done in Jones County."

Again he stated: "I lay it down as a flat proposition that while I am governor, regardless of what Congress does with the poll tax issue now before Congress, Mississippi Negroes are not going to belly up to the polls and take charge of the election in this state."

Other contestants in the field were Tom Bailey and Dennis Murphree.

Negro-Baiter Runs Last in Missisippi Race

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Rob F. Hall
(Special to the Daily Worker)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. [illegible].—The most significant result of the Mississippi primaries last Tuesday was the complete and smashing defeat of Lester Franklin, white supremacy candidate for governor, who was last in a field of four.

Former Governor Sennett Conner was top man with 106,000 votes. For place in the run-off with Conner, Tom Bailey and Dennis Murphree fought a hotly contested fight, with Bailey inching out over Murphree. Franklin lagged behind with 35,000 votes.

All the candidates gave lip service support to Roosevelt, but all of them expressed dissatisfaction with certain domestic policies of the administration. There was not a clear-cut pro-Roosevelt, pro-war candidate in the field.

But Franklin, the favorite of Negro-hating Theodore Bilbo, surpassed all records in the vileness of his white supremacy agitation. The following excerpts from Franklin's campaign speeches indicate the tenor of his platform:

NEGRO-HATER

"I want it understood that when I am governor and a black brute so far forgets his place as to commit rape upon a white woman, and the outraged public interferes with his civil liberties by taking his life at the end of a rope, I shall rely solely upon the state courts to deal with those guilty if they can be so proven. I will not bring the matter to the attention of he FBI and request its intervention as was recently done in Jones County."

(Franklin's brother was one of the lawyers associated with the defense of the Jones County lynchers in the recent Hattiesburg trial.)

"I lay it down as a flat proposition that while I am governor, regardless of what Congress does with the poll tax issue now before Congress, Mississippi Negroes are not going to belly up to the polls and take charge of the elections in this state while I am your governor."

John Temple Graves, columnist in the Birmingham [illegible] Herald interprts the defeat of Franklin as "revolt against the New Deal."

"No revolt in the South?" he queries. "How about Mississippi Tuesday? The New Dealer didn't even also run. Or rather, he ran fourth in a field of four."

This interpretation just won't work. There were no New Dealers in the primary elections and the worst white supremacy agitator, the most extreme disciple of Hitler's race ideology, was overwhelmingly repudiated by the people of Mississippi, and has followed Gene Talmadge of Georgia into that limbo which the win-the-war people of the South have reserved for them.

This happened in a poll-tax state in which less than 20 per cent of the adult citizens are permitted to vote.

52a-1943

Missouri

Elect First Negro Alderman In Mo.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia 1943 APR

ST. LOUIS — (ANP) — The Rev. Jasper C. Caston, 44-year-old pastor of the Memorial Baptist church, Tuesday became alderman of the Sixth ward.

MAR 26 1943

Rev. Caston, Republican, defeated his democratic opponent, Joseph B. Schweppe, by a vote of 1,672 to 422. In an interview before the election ,he said that he was politically a "progressive," favoring anything "that is best for the people."

The new alderman-elect is a graduate of Western college (then at Macon. Mo.) and served three years as superintendent of missions for the National Baptist Convention, Inc., in Liberia.

Tuesday's election represented the first time that St. Louis elected its alderman by wards instead of by city-wide vote. The new system proved very effective. Under the old system, whichever party carried the city as a whole swept into office all its alderman candidates, including thsoe who were beaten in their own wards.

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

1943

Two Negroes are nominees on the Republican ticket for Board of Aldermen. The election is April 6. Rev. Jasper C. Caston has cast his fortune with the voters of the Sixth Ward. It is estimated that about sixty per cent of the voters in this Ward are Negroes. His election is sure if only we will think when we go to the polls.

We are informed that a similar situation prevails in the Twentieth Ward where Harold D. Robinson is the nominee. If he receives the support of the Republican organization in his Ward there is no doubt but that he will come through with flying colors.

March 26, 1943

Two Negroes seated officially in the city's lawmaking body will make a good team. Help to put this old city on a higher plane where it can breathe some of the pure air of democracy. All can join in electing them.

52a-1943

NEW JERSEY

Union County Elects First Race Coroner

Philadelphia, Pa.,
Philadelphia Tribune

PLAINFIELD, N. J.—Robert Judkins, local mortician, was elected last Tuesday as coroner of Union County, the first elective office ever held in this county by a colored man.

Born in Hertford, N. C., Judkins formerly lived in Summit and moved to Plainfield 18 years ago. He married Mrs. Sarah Scriver Judkins in Summit.

He is president of the BYPU of Calvary Baptist Church, Rev. Charles P. Harris, pastor. The Judkins have three children, Staff Sergeant Joseph B. Judkins, Jr., who is stationed at McDill Flying Fields, Tampa, Fla.; Harley L. Judkins, who is associated with his father in the undertaking business, and a daughter, Lorraine Judkins.

SOAPBOX -- by Adam Clayton Powell Jr.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.



POWELL

THE NEGRO PEOPLE of Harlem can no longer be controlled by any political leaders except those that are really marching with the people. The Republican and Democratic leaders may feel that this is a sorry day. On the other hand, they must realize that as long as the Negro vote is an independent vote they themselves individually and collectively are strengthened. Whether it is Simpson Davis and Harold Burton of the Republican Party or Jim Pemberton, Fred Dickens and Herbert Bruce of the Democratic Party when requests are made now they will be listened to. The higher ups know that more than promises are now needed to deliver the Negro vote.

In the 17th Assembly District it is time that the Republicans organized and elected themselves a Negro leader. In the 22nd Assembly District, the passing of Joseph Gavagan to the Supreme Court means that the Negro people of that area are ready for a Negro leader. It will be another great mistake of the Democrats if once again they try to force a leader on the people. At least sixty per cent of the 22nd is now Negro and they must have Negro leadership or else.

As we analyze the astounding vote for the progressive candidates—Quill, Cacchione, Davis—we note that together they pooled 165,000 votes. This is almost four times the total membership of the Communist Party in New York City. This proves that both Negroes and whites in large numbers are beginning to vote for the man and the program rather than for the party and its label.

The opponents of Proportional Representation are now beginning to clamor for its abolition. We are going to fight for Proportional Representation to remain. If we lose the fight and it is abolished and Councilmen may be elected by Senatorial districts this will make no difference. The politically mature citizenry of New York City has learned the lesson of electing to office the man they desire and no tricks behind the scenes are going to keep them from succeeding.

The new City Council will be comprised of ten Democrats and seven non-Democrats. This means in the minority of seven a majority of four will be able to dictate its policy. Undoubtedly, Earl, Klein and Christensen will side together. Just as surely will Quill, Cacchione and Davis. The deciding vote will therefore be in the hands of Stanley Isaacs. If he votes carefully in line with his own usual independence it is possible that he will emerge as the minority leader, or Michael Quill. It would be a fine thing and a symbol of unity if the aisle that separated minority from majority were wiped out and the Council of 17 sat together as one.

No one can safely say what the trend is in New York. On one hand is the resounding victory for the Republican Party with the triumph of Hanley over Haskell, and on the other hand the tremendous victory of the PEOPLE'S candidates such as Quill, Klein, Cacchione, Earl, Isaacs and Davis. The truth of it is—

NO PARTY CAME OUT OF THIS ELECTION IN NEW YORK CITY THE VICTOR.

THE PAST ELECTION WAS IN TRUTH A PEOPLE'S VICTORY.

These things must come to pass in the next year or two for Negro people—

- A CONGRESSMAN.
- A STATE SENATOR.
- AN ASSEMBLYMAN FROM THE 22nd A.D.
- REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRAT LEADERS IN THE 22nd A.D.

Elections Cut Reactionary Domination of Democrats:

Labor Puts 7 Candidates In New York City Council

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Labor, which knew it had done a good job of mobilizing workers' votes for the November elections here, didn't know how good for nearly two weeks after election. Then, the slow count of ballots for City Council found seven labor-indorsed candidates elected. Those elected included Pres. Michael J. Quill of Transport Workers Union (CIO), who led the entire list of elected councilmen from the Bronx section of the city, where he ran. Other labor-indorsed candidates elected included two Communists, two Republicans, one American Labor party and one Democratic candidate.

Quill's overwhelming vote was hailed as proof of the real political work labor can do when campaigning on an organized community basis. The Greater New York Industrial Union Council, which had thrown virtually its full force behind the Quill campaign, said that organization of labor community councils in the Bronx was mainly responsible for the victory.

The community councils, set up nearly nine months ago, include representatives of unions with members living in each community. Each union is entitled to one representative for each 20 members it has in the area. The councils are spearheads for election district and door-to-door campaigning.

New York's proportional representation plan allows voters to mark first, second, third and more choices for council and labor indorsed several candidates in each of New York's five boroughs on that basis. The newly elected councilmen who carried indorsements from the CIO council, most CIO unions and many AFL unions are:

Manhattan: Councilman Stanley M. Isaacs (R) and Benjamin J. Davis jr (C). Bronx: Quill and Mrs. Gertrude Weil K[illegible] (ALP). Queens: [illegible] (D). Brooklyn: Councilman Peter V. Cacchione (C) and Genevieve B. Earle (R).

The labor victory cut the reactionary domination of the City Council by Farley Democrats here to a minimum.

HOW TO WIN AN ELECTION

As Peter V. Cacchione explains it, the best way is the democratic way—as a candidate of the people and for the people. . . . The lessons of New York.

New Masses
New York, N. Y.
DEC 28 1943

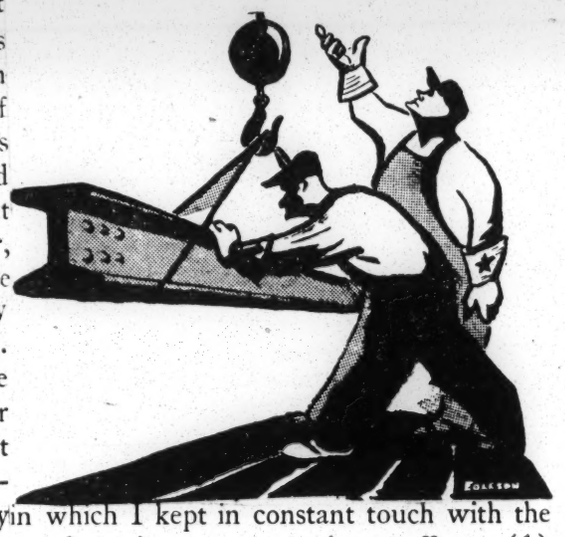
THE results of the recent New York City councilmanic election have left the old-line politicians groggy. It wasn't only my election that upset them; the biggest upset was the election of Benjamin Davis, Jr., attorney and outstanding Negro Communist. And they hadn't expected such a clean sweep of progressives. Two laborites in the Bronx: Michael Quill, fighting Irish leader of the Transport Workers Union, and the CIO's number one candidate; and Gertrude Weil Klein, incumbent. In Manhattan, Stanley Isaacs, a great fighter for progressive legislation, who received over 83,000 votes, the highest total in the city, and the only candidate to go past the 75,000 mark.

My total ran close to 69,000 votes; of these, 53,000 were first-choice votes, the highest given to any candidate. In 1941 I came in last of the nine councilmen elected from Brooklyn, and in 1943, I was first of six. Two years ago I polled 5.2 percent of the valid votes cast; this year I polled 12.4 percent, or [illegible]ease of seven percent over 1941.

One can understand why political observers, who had been in the political arena for many years, were astounded. Their "explanations" were interesting. Some of the papers attributed the victory to the "tremendous amount of money spent on the campaign"; others spoke of our literature, and how much of it we got out. Mr. Joseph T. Sharkey, Democrat and vice-chairman of the Council, talked of a "veiled" campaign—by which I suppose he meant that after two years in the Council, and thousands of public appearances throughout Brooklyn, I was still unknown to the people of Brooklyn, or perhaps even to the Citizens Committee that worked so hard to elect me, as a Communist!

No, the answer isn't so simple as that. The fact is that the great majority of the people who voted for me did so neither because I am a Communist, nor in spite of my being one. They gave me their votes because I represented a clear win-the-war position. That was what they were voting about in this year of global war, 1943; and that's what the politicians all missed.

THE American people are part of a vast world movement, embracing hundreds of millions and moving towards common aspirations. They are feeling the impact of the war: almost ten million American boys and girls are now in the armed service, and there is hardly a family in Brooklyn that does not have a son, or brother, or father, or other relative away from home. The people want the Axis destroyed, and they want it done in the shortest possible way. They know that only the unity of the United Nations and of all forces in our country can bring this about. They want to see the enemies of that unity completely routed, both at home and abroad. They sense the tremendous danger to our country in the work of the anti-Semities and Negro-haters; in that section of the capitalist class that looks at the present emergency as a way of destroying labor's gains, and that hates Roosevelt more than Hitler; and the whole kit and caboodle of Red-baiters and anti-Sovieteers. No other candidates from Brooklyn gave the attention to these issues that the Communist candidate did. Most of them treated the election campaign as a purely local affair, a mere matter of "city politics," entirely without connection with the great problems that are in the minds of the people. The character of our campaign was no mere election device. I have been in the Council two years. Ever since I got in, I have placed first and foremost the question of winning the war. It was no problem for us to go to the people with the same objectives I had been fighting for during nearly two years. True, the strategy has seemed to be to isolate me and my program in the Council. Not a single one of the bills and resolutions that I introduced was ever reported out of committees. I suppose this was meant to be a way of "killing me," politically speaking.



Communists don't "kill" that easily. Although I was not a member of either the majority or minority caucus, I was not alone in the Council room. Behind me there were hundreds of thousands of sincere, honest citizens of New York who agreed with my program for winning the war. And I tried never to lose contact with these people. There were three chief ways in which I kept in constant touch with the people who put me into office: (1) Through a great many public appearances, at mass meetings, street corner rallies, and before all sorts of people's organizations. Part of this work consisted of the sale of war stamps and bonds at open air rallies and through my office at 16 Court Street, Brooklyn. (2) After being elected in 1941, I sent letters to 25,000 signers of our petitions, informing them that they were to feel free to come to my office at any time to discuss their problems. During the last two years, many hundreds of Brooklynites have come to the office in response to this invitation. (3) We have maintained continuous contact with the trade unions, civic, and other people's organizations. On every important issue—the five-cent fare, sabotage on the waterfront, the staggering of work-hours, etc.—I have mailed a statement of my position to these organizations urging them to take action.

WHAT were the results of these contacts? There are 6,000 members of the Communist Party in Brooklyn. Deduct those from the first-choice votes, and you have 47,000 non-Party voters who put me down first on their ballots; deduct that 6,000 again from the final total, and you have 63,000 voters who put me somewhere on their ballots. These people did not vote for the full program of the Communist Party. To believe that would be ridiculous, and Commuists do not at any time go in for basing their analysis on the ridiculous. But it is important to understand that, after all that has been said about my Party in the past few years—most of it untrue—the people of Brooklyn, and for that matter Manhattan, too, seem to be agreed in surprisingly high numbers that a Communist can make a pretty good *people's candidate*, good enough to be elected to the City Council in the largest city in the country.

I realize that the vote cast for me has placed greater responsibilities on me than ever before. But I also know that with people like Ben Davis, Mike Quill, Stanley Isaacs, Genevieve Earl, Gertrude Weil Klein and others beside me, the job of making the City Council an active win-the-war force in New York City life is going to be a lot easier than it was in 1942 and 1943.

Maybe that, after all, is what the people had in mind when they elected me. Maybe that's the secret of our success.

PETER V. CACCHIONE.

Council Elections Make History in N. Y.

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Mac Gordon

For the first itme in political history, two Communists were elected to the New York City Council in a councilmanic election that proved to be a demonstration of the progressive character of the New York City electorate.

Councilman Peter V. Cacchione, Brooklyn Communist leader with a magnificent record in the Council as a fighter for a win-the-war program and for the needs of the people, was re-elected with the highest first choice vote in the city. He also received the highest final count of the six councilmen elected.

Among the four candidates sent to the Council from Manhattan was Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., outstanding Negro Communist leader who takes the place of Councilman A. Clayton Powell, Jr., as the spokesman of the Negro people in the city's legislative body. Councilman Powell refused to run for reelection. Davis is the first Negro Communist to be elected to public office in the nation.

In addition to the two Communists, Michael J. Quill, president of the Transport Workers Union and an outstanding national progressive CIO leader, was elected from the Bronx.

LABOR SUPPORTED

Other labor-supported progressive candidates elected in the new 17-man Council were Councilwoman Gertrude Weil Klein, American Laborite from the Bronx; Councilman Stanley M. Isaacs, Republican progressive from Manhattan; and Councilwoman Genevieve B. Earle, Republican progressive from Brooklyn.

These six were all endorsed by the City CIO Council and by a number of unions of the AFL. Together with a Republican newcomer from Queens, they will make up the Council minority, the other ten elected being Democrats.

Thus, the reactionary Democratic majority of 17 out of 26 in the present Council will be cut to 10 out of 17 in the new Council, with the minority considerably stronger politically. This majority, composed of old-line machine Democrats, was responsible for blocking many win-the-war measures and for carrying on a vicious partisan political war with the Mayor which diverted the attention and energies of the city administration from the war effort.

The new minority will contain two Communists, two laborites and three nominees of the Republican Party, two of whom were elected to the present Council, as independents.

OUTSTANDING CANDIDATE

The progressive spirit of the New York voters was reflected in the fact that the outstanding popular candidates in Brooklyn, Bronx and Manhattan were Cacchione, Quill and Isaacs respectively. They received the highest first choice votes in their own boroughs, and a huge proportion of other choices on the other ballots cast not all of which were registered. Isaacs, with a splendid record as a champion of civil and minority rights and of the needs of the people, was the only candidate to hit the 75,000 mark which, under the system of Proportional Representation in New York City, is the upper limit of votes a candidate can receive.

The Communists entered four candidates in the councilmanic race. Besides the two elected in Brooklyn and Manhattan, Isidore Begun ran in the Bronx and Paul Crosbie was the nominee in Queens. The total first choice vote of 106,440 received by these four candidates is considerably higher than any previous Communist vote in the city. It is just about 50 per cent greater than the 70,884 first choice votes received by the four Communist councilmanic candidates in 1941.

In Brooklyn, Councilman Cacchione received 53,547 first choice votes. He picked up over 15,000 later choices to give him the top final total in the borough—68,836. He was followed by Mrs. Earle, who got 39,118 first choice votes and ended up with 66,402. Mrs. Earle is the Minority Leader in the present Council.

In third place, some distance behind, was Joseph Sharkey, Democrat and Majority Leader of the Council, who received a total of 60,475 final votes. The other three elected, all Democrats, were Walter Hart, Anthony DiGiovanni and Edward Vogel. All are members of the present Council.

Three present incumbents, including two Democrats and Louis Goldberg, red-baiting "right wing" laborite, who ran as an independent this year, were eliminated, since only six were elected instead of nine as a result of the reduction in the number of votes cast.

In Manhattan, Stanley Isaacs was high on first choice with 44,877. He was followed by Councilman John Nugent, Democrat, with 37,450 and Benjamin Davis with 34,162. Eugene Connolly, American Labor Party leader, ran sixth in the field of 13 with 29,850 first choices, close behind two Democratic incumbents.

Connolly was finally eliminated with a total of close to 35,000. Nearly 6,000 of his ballots were transferred to Davis, who was the fourth man out of four elected. Davis' final vote was 44,334. The others elected, besides Isaacs, are Nugent and William Carroll, Democrat, who finished third. All except Davis are members of the present Council.

In the Bronx, Quill led in the first choice count with a vote of 47,600, followed by Charles Keegan, Democratic incumbent now with the armed forces, who received 39,682. The two ALP councilmen, Mrs. Klein and Salvatore Ninfo, ran fifth and sixth with 33,752 and 30,005 respectively.

Ninfo, an International Ladies Garment Workers Union vice-president who is an associate of the notorious Soviet-baiter and reactionary Luigi Antonini, was eliminated during the count. In the final tally, Keegan topped Quill by 1,800 votes, receiving 68,913 to Quill's 67,195. Mrs. Klein was the third of three elected, receiving a final vote of 55,314. Quill is the only one of the three not a member of the present Council.

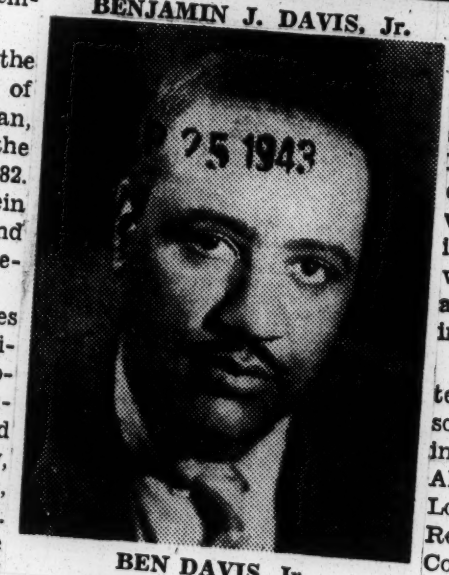
In Queens, a Republican newcomer, A. J. Philips, and two Democratic incumbents, Councilmen James A. Phillips and Hugh Quinn, were chosen. Three incumbents, including the reactionary Republican John Christensen, who regularly lines up wtih the Democratic Majority, were defeated.

Because of the high calibre of the progressive candidates elected, and because the Democratic Majority has been cut it is expected that the usual fight of the Democratic machine politicians to abolish the Proportional Representation voting system, which has already begun, will be intensified. The machine politicians as discriminations as well as the Communist Party but, as Dr. Cannon said, all the people. He said he felt he had a chance to win. All the speakers expressed the conviction that Davis can win, and in the armed forces. Across the river, in Camden, Mayor Bruner heads the list of sponsors for a big Soviet-American friendship meeting in Elks Hall.

COMMUNIST CITY COUNCILMEN



BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr.



BEN DAVIS, Jr.

PETER V. CACCHIONE

leader and former president of the Manhattan Medical Ass'n., among a large number of the Davis sponsors at a press conference in the Hotel Theresa, 125th St. and Seventh Ave., said that no matter what party the voter belonged to, if he desired a representative "who will both strengthen the Council and give you a voice in its proceedings, then Ben Davis is your man."

He explained that he had written the statement as his own personal views. The others, however, including Dr. Herman Warner, Dr. Albert Armstrong, Dr. Glenden Logan, Dr. Reginald Morris, the Rev. Dr. Eliat White, Charles A. Collins, of the Hotel and Club Employes Union, AFL, and Lawrence Roberts, of the Restaurant Workers Union, AFL, concurred in it and said they would vote for it as a statement from the whole committee.

Dr. Cannon's statement continued:

"We firmly believe that in this hour of supreme importance for Negro rights, America's greatest minority group should be represented in the Council and that without a spokesman Negroes would be greatly handicapped in this community, I do not appeal to you to vote for him solely as a Negro. I appeal to you to vote for him as an American citizen who is without question qualified to add to the mental stature of the next City Council. To Negroes, of course, his racial distinction will be a cause for added pride.

"My accepting the chairmanship of the Committee is based upon these reasons, Medicine, not politics, is my profession but one cannot live in this world today without a keep interest in the running of government and a great desire

BRODSKY SPEAKS

Carl Brodsky, who withdrew from the running in favor of Davis, was out to win the quickest possible time. Mr. Davis, said Brodsky, would stimulate action on the question of opening a second front in western Europe to the Council All the speakers expressed the conviction that Davis can win, and in the armed provided all persons concerned do

Non-Partisan Body Backs Davis

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Dr. George Cannon yesterday announced the foundation of a Citizens Non-Partisan Committee to Elect Benjamin J. Davis, Jr. Dr. Cannon declared that the Communist candidate for the City Council from Manhattan is "so superbly qualified that he transcends party lines" and that his election "would be an asset to this great metropolis."

Dr. Cannon, prominent Harlem

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

their part in publicizing the candidacy and urging the people to register and to vote. They felt that Mr. Davis' simple program of winning the war as quickly as possible and making New York City a "model democratic" community to embody all the main needs of the people.

Other speakers praised Mr. Davis for the "sacrifices" he is willing to make in his devotion to the cause of the common people. Dr. Armstrong declared that such a man "must be" elected to the Council. The Rev. Dr. James Robinson, pastor of the Church of the Master, said that he, at first, decided not to accept a place on the committee. He was later convinced that no other candidate could win. He did not wish to vote for somebody who did not have "a proper grasp of conditions." He resolved, therefore, to support Mr. Davis fully and openly.

Among other members of the large Non-Partisan Committee are Countee Cullen, vice-chairman; Ferdinand Smith, vice-chairman; Ben Gold, vice-chairman; Prof Margaret Schlauch, Josephine Truslow Adams, Richard Wright and Dr. Howard Selsam.

A Positive Step Forward

Amsterdam News

The election of Justice Francis E. Rivers to the City Court is something of which all New Yorkers should be proud. For in face of fearfully mounting race and religious hate in our country, white and colored voters of New York County combined to elect a Negro to this important judicial post. By so doing they made merit and not color the basis of their action.

New York, N. Y.

It was clear when Justice Rivers was nominated, however, that if he was to be elected, white voters would have to give him their support. An analysis of the votes cast for him shows that that is exactly what they did. Of the 23 Assembly Districts in Manhattan white voters comprise all or a large majority in 17 of them. Yet, nine of these 17 districts were carried by Mr. Rivers, in some instances by whopping majorities. Although he won in the six districts with large numbers of Negro voters, Mr. Higgins, his Democratic opponent, received comparatively as many votes in these districts as he did in some of the white districts carried by Justice Rivers.

The blunt truth of Mr. Rivers' success, however, is that the American Labor Party voters elected him. This is clearly shown by the fact that he received 105,348 votes in the Republican column to 143,794 votes for Mr. Higgins in the Democratic column. The 61,151 votes polled by Mr. Rivers in the A. L. P. column gave him a clear majority over Mr. Higgins.

When Mr. Rivers was nominated by the Republicans and the Democrats were casting around for a candidate to oppose him for the City Court judgeship, the A. L. P. advised the Democratic County leaders that it would support a Negro or Italian candidate for the post. When Tammany refused to nominate a Negro or Italian, the A. L. P. threw its support behind Mr. Rivers. Therefore, in view of the vote polled by the A. L. P. in the gubernatorial election in 1942, and its success in electing Mr. Rivers, both major parties in the State must pay more and more attention to it.

Meantime, the continued gains of the Republican Party nationally are emphatic indications that the American voters are not satisfied with the way the New Deal Administration is running the country. Reports that Negro voters in N. J., Pa., Ky., as well as New York State increased their vote for Republican candidates over last year can be accepted as a protest against the way the Negro is treated in the armed services; the kowtowing of the administration to Southern congressman whenever the race problem is involved, and its failure to take resolute action in the recent wave of race riots as well as its refusal to enforce the Executive Order outlawing racial and religious discrimination in employment in war plants. Unless the administration does something about these ills heaped upon the colored citizens, then it can expect continued political rejection by them.

In contrast to the wholesome, Democratic election of Justice Rivers, the re-election of Mayor Edward Jeffries of Detroit on a race-hate program is a matter of grave concern to all Americans. Because he knew he had lost the Negro and most of the labor vote as a result of his biased, weak handling of the riot last June, Mr. Jeffries rang the welkin of race hate night and day in his campaign for re-election. Forced into a position of voting solidly against Jeffries because of his anti-Negro acts during and after the riot, the colored voters of Detroit unfortunately provided him with a demagogic reason for appealing to the Klan, industrialists and other anti-Negro forces in the city for support. If his opponent had been any good, however, it is believed that Jeffries would have been defeated despite his direct attack on colored citizens.

If any moral whatsoever is to be drawn from last week's elections it is that both white and colored voters must keep abreast of what is happening in the world at large as well as in the U. S., and support those candidates for office who most nearly meet the test of true democracy. Basic among the characteristics that any candidate must have to meet the test of democracy is a lack of racial, religious and national prejudices and the courage to speak out anywhere against him. The election of Mr. Rivers by the voters of New York County is proof that a preponderant number of them are able to judge for themselves the merit of a candidate for high elective office, regardless of color. It is indeed a positive step forward for democracy.

THE NEGRO VOTE

New York, N. Y. Age

— Two weeks before election, all of the daily newspapers of the city carried stories from the National Negro Council (Edgar Brown) to the effect that approximately 81 per cent of New York State's 230,000 to 270,000 registered Negro voters would cast their ballots on election day for Joe R. Hanley, Republican candidate for Lieutenant Governor.

Edgar G, Brown, director of the Council, according to the stories, said that the Negro vote would be 82 per cent Republican in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Kentucky, running as high as 84 per cent in Philadelphia and Louisville.

The truth of the matter is that — and election day proved it in New York — that no party can lay claims to having the Negro vote in its vest pocket any more, Edgar G. Brown to the contrary. The Negro vote just simply is the Negro vote and whether we like to admit it or not it does not blindly follow wise men in New York, and in other states in the future, we would advise him to use more care before rushing into print with brash and extravagant claims. The Negro has suffered from too much of that type of political propwash in the past. And because of the ambition of the many have suffered too any party any more.

The truth of the matter is that Negro vote, at long last, is becoming intelligent and votes for the man rather than cause of the party. If the Negro vote roled high in New York State long for Joe R. Hanley, the Republican candidate for Lieutenant Governor, it was because the Negro vote had more confidence in Joe R. Hanley, the candidate, than it did in his opponent, General Wiliam N. Haskell.

To follow Edgar Brown's pre-election analysis to its logical conclusion, Judge Francis E. Rivers, Republican-American Labor coalition candidate, would have received 81 per cent of the Negro vote in Harlem because Judge Rivers was a Republican and Negroes were falling over backwards flocking to the Republican party. Intelligent analysis of the vote shows that Judge Rivers received approximately 60 per cent of the Negro vote in Harlem, which in itself was no mean accomplishment since the Negro vote in Harlem for the past decade has been consistently found in the Democratic column.

When Edgar Brown attempts to forecast election results

The Negro vote, at long last, will be the Negro vote not any one party but for the men of whatever parties whose records of achievements and whose platforms promise the best for the Negro.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

52a-1943

New York

Artists' Tribute













Above are some of the participants in tomorrow's tribute to Ben Davis. Top (left to right): Ella Fitzgerald, Lucky Roberts, Mercedes Gilbert and Paul Robeson. Below, Coleman Hawkins and Betty Garritt.

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Paul Robeson to Head Cast at the Ben Davis Victory Show Tomorrow

Paul Robeson, whose opening in "Othello" was heralded as a triumph by all theatre critics, will perform a scene from the Shakesperian play for the all-star Victory show in honor of Banjamin Davis, Jr., to be held at the Golden Gate Ballroom tomorrow afternoon.

Mr. Robeson heads a cast of musicians, dancers and actors of international reputation, who are making their contribution in the fight against Jim Crow by participating in this Sunday afternoon program in honor of the Communist candidate for the City Council.

The pianist-band leader Teddy Wilson assembled the artists and arranged the program. Fredi Washington, Negro actress will be master of ceremonies.

The famous lyricist, Lucy Roberts, the tenor saxaphonist Coleman Hawkins, and such other famous stars as Hazel Scott, Betty Garrett, Pearl Primus, Josh White, Billie Holliday, Mary Lou Williams, Richard Huey, Massie Patterson, Billy Daniels, Betty Royce, Mercedes Gilbert, Berry Brothers and Ella Fitzgerald, will all be there giving their best in honor of Ben Davis and his fight to make the world a better place in which to live.

The main speakers will be Councilman Adam Clayton Powell, Dr. George Cannon and the Rev. James Robinson.

Civic Leaders Endorse Davis

The campaign to put Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., in the City Council took on national significance when J. W. Lancaster, Sr., president of the Colored Citizens Organization of Fairfield County and president of The Empire Social Club of Bridgeport, yesterday promised in the name of his organizations to "do everything in our power "to elect the Harlem leader.

"I would be less than a man," said Mr. Lancaster, "if I didn't find out that I could do for Davis, the most wonderful man, whom God let live, who did do much for the people of Bridgeport."

Coming to the office of the Citizens Non-Partisan Committee to Elect Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., to City Council in Harlem, Mr. Lancaster, who is a member of the Elks, recalled with pleasure the "grand speech" Mr. Davis made in Bridgeport several months ago. Davis' election will help Negroes everywhere, the Bridgeport Negro leader insisted.

"The time has come when colored Americans are breaking away from unquestioning allegiance either to the Democratic or Republican Parties and forming a new alliance which will mean much to colored people in the days to come," he said.

YMCA LEADER'S SUPPORT

James Hewlett, leader at the 135th St. YMCA also came forward with an endorsement yesterday, Audley Moore, campaign manager, disclosed.

"Mr. Davis has all the elements of a real Councilman," said Mr. Hewlett." I have never made a political fight but will get out this year and fight for his election."

The Broadway and Hollywood star Katherine Dunhman has agreed to sponsor and appear at the Golden Gate Ballroom "Davis Victory Show" on Sunday, Oct. 24. She joins a long list of artists, such as Paul Robeson, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Teddy Wilson, Fredi Washington, Ella Fitzgerald and others who will pay tribute to the Communist leader.

The Women's Division, headed by Josephine Truslow Adams and Anna L. Moore. is sponsoring a dinner for the candidate at the home of Miss Adams, 435 Riverside Drive, Friday, Oct. 15.

Mr. Davis had been invited to speak at the quarterly meeting of the Furniture Workers Union, Oct. 24th, at Irving Plaza.

Endorses Davis



Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

KATHERINE DUNHAM

Notables Back Davis For Council

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

NEW YORK. — Dr. George Cannon urged voters to vote for Ben Davis, Communist candidate for the City Council, on qualifications, character, and to vote for true democracy, "not for party symbols but for men who have character. Dr. Cannon is serving as chairman of the Health Committee of the City Wide Citizens' Committee to elect Benjamin J. Davis Jr. to the City Council of New York.

Dr. Cannon, noted Negro physician and question qualifications. Other officers are Rev. Eth-Gellert, Fire Chief Wesley Williams, Josephine Truslow Adams, Miss Daisy Brooks, financial secretary; Teddy Wilson, Freddie Washington, Mrs. Mattie Hunter, treasurer; Wilhelmina Adams, Bruce Minton, Audley Moore, campaign manager and many other prominent citizens of the City Wide Citizens' Committee "not for party symbols but for men who have character, and the same desire for true democracy, "not for party symbols but for men who have character, qualifications, and to vote Union. Other officers are Rev. Eth-Gellert, Fire Chief Wesley Williams, Josephine Truslow Adams, Miss Daisy Brooks, financial secretary; Teddy Wilson, Freddie Washington, Mrs. Mattie Hunter, treasurer; Wilhelmina Adams, Bruce Minton, Audley Moore, campaign manager and many other prominent citizens of the City Wide Citizens' Committee to elect Benjamin J. Davis Jr. to the City Council. To add to the mental struggle of the Negroes, Dr. Marc Moreland, publicity director, and Edward Royce, production manager.

Other prominent members of the Non-Partisan Committee include Rev. James Robinson of the Church of the Master, Paul Robeson, Mrs. J. C. Guggenheimer, Rabbi Max Felshin, Hugo Gold, president of the Fur Workers Union, and Ferdinand Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union. Other officers are Rev. Eth-Gellert, Fire Chief Wesley Williams, Josephine Truslow Adams, Miss Daisy Brooks, financial secretary; Teddy Wilson, Freddie Washington, Mrs. Mattie Hunter, treasurer; Wilhelmina Adams, Bruce Minton, Audley Moore, campaign manager and many other prominent citizens of the City Wide Citizens' Committee to elect Benjamin J. Davis Jr. to the City Council of New York.

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Serving as vice-chairmen of the



PETER V. CACCHIONE



BEN DAVIS, JR.

Daily Worker

Painters Endorse Cacchione, Davis

New York, N. Y.

Painters District Council 9, which represents nearly 15,000 New York AFL members, has endorsed the candidacies of Councilman Peter V. Cacchione, Kings County Communist, and Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., Harlem Communist leader. Both seek election to City Council.

The Council, which coordinates the work of nine AFL painters' locals, also puts its stamp of approval on the candidacies of Lieut.-Gen. William Haskell, Democratic and American Labor Party nominee for Lieutenant Governor, and Michael J. Quill and Eugene P. Connolly, American Labor Party candidates. Quill, president of the Transport Workers' Union, is running in the Bronx, and Connolly, ALP leader, in Manhattan.

Action by the Council was taken after Locals 454 and 848, having made endorsements of their own, brought their recommendations to the delegated body for wider approval.

Local 454, endorsing Haskell, Quill, Cacchione and Connolly, wrote the Council: "These candidates are well known in the labor movement as outstanding fighters for trade unionism. They are also being endorsed by the ALP. Therefore, Local Union 454 asks the District Council to go on record to endorse the above candidates."

Local 848 included Mr. Davis in its endorsements and a letter from Morris Davis, secretary, told the Council: "This action is taken in the belief that these candidates will front for labor and all win-the-war forces in our city and state. We urge you in the interest of national unity to endorse the action of Local Union 848."

Earl Browder, general secretary of the Communist Party, will address a special membership meeting of Manhattan Communists on Monday, Oct. 18 at 8 P.M., at Manhattan Center on the election campaign of Benjamin J Davis, Jr., Communist candidate for City Council from Manhattan.

City Court—New York County

The Bar Association and the New York County Lawyers Association unite in endorsing Francis E. Rivers as a candidate whose career "furnishes convincing evidence of his capacity and fitness" for this place, and the Citizens Union finds in Mr. Rivers a man of "exceptional character and capacity, with a highly creditable record of public service."New York Times

Joseph T. Higgins, the other candidate, is regarded as qualified by the New York County Lawyers Association and the Citizens Union; but in the opinion of the Bar Association, while "a man of excellent character and fine personality, he has not as yet attained the background of experience necessary to qualify him."New York, N. Y

Voters Breaking Old Ties to Back Davis

The Worker

New York, N. Y.

The outstanding support given to Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., in his race for the City Council brings to light significant political changes taking place among Negro voters in all parties.

Endorsements from Democrats, Republicans and American Laborites for the Communist candidate indicate a break-away from old party affiliations and traditional barriers.

Davis' vigorous fight against discrimination, poll taxes and Jim Crow has made him a leader to his people in every party, as witnessed by the sensational backing given the Citizens Non-Partisan Committee to Elect Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., to the City Council.

In 1943, Negro voters are looking more to the man than the party in choosing their representatives. A tendency to look for a record of strict adherence to the President's win-the-war program is growing.

They are tending to line up with the most progressive labor force in the country—the CIO—whose national body has already urged all-out unity behind win-the-war candidates, irrespective of party labels.

PEOPLE'S VOICE

The current issue of Councilman Adam Clayton Powell's **People's Voice** reflects the deep-going changes and political maturity taking place among the Negro masses. In his column "Soap Box," the Councilman calls upon his readers to "Vote the Man Not the Party!"

"We should vote for every candidate who is progressive, pro-New Deal, pro-labor and will represent the best interests of the minority people," he declares.

The Negro leader points out that the "politically emancipated new Negro is voting today" for candidates who are Democrats, Republicans, American Laborites and a Communist.

The election race of Judge Francis Rivers to the City Court on the Republican and American Labor Party tickets is gaining wide support among Negro and white voters because he is looked upon as a representative of the Negro people. He would not get this support if his general outlook were not considered progressive.

Layle Lane, running on the Socialist ticket, has received little or no backing from the Negro people, even though she is a member of the race, because her anti-war program does harm to the nation.

Last week the **Amsterdam News**, a Negro newspaper, reported from Washington that the Davis election was being watched very closely by political observers. Since the Communist candidate was running on a win-the-war ticket, the newspaper pointed out, observers were interested in seeing whether voters would be swayed by issues rather than labels. In its story, the **Amsterdam News** suggested that Davis' endorsements indicated a breakdown in the old sharp line-ups.

Similar changes in the voting patterns of white voters were also noted with the unanimous endorsement of Mr. Davis and Peter V. Cacchione by the city CIO with its 500,000 membership.

This was the first time that a major labor body in the city endorsed candidates of the Communist Party. Rivers, Davis, Eugene P. Connolly, all running on different tickets, were endorsed by the CIO. Connolly is the ALP candidate for Council from Manhattan.

If these political changes taking place as a result of war conditions are followed up with an intensive campaign brought down to the people on the street and in the shops, the election of a Communist to the City Council from Manhattan for the first time is a distinct possibility.

ALP Candidate Backs Davis for City Council

Daily Worker

New York, N. Y.

Eugene P. Connolly, American Labor Party candidate for City Council from Manhattan, yesterday expressed the hope that Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., Communist candidate, and he, would be colleagues in the city's governing body.

Mr. Connolly, invited by the Rev. William A. Campbell, pastor of Little Mount Zion Baptist Church, 171 W. 140th St., to speak, followed his own endorsement by the minister by declaring it was possible to elect a Negro Councilman and that "it is desirable that that man be Benjamin J. Davis, Jr."

The speaker outlined to the congregation the importance of the war against fascism and, therefore, the necessity of electing the best possible men. In pointing out that Congressman Vito Marcantonio, with the people's help, had largely instrumental in getting HR-7, anti-poll tax bill, through the House, M. Connolly said it would take the unified pressure of all the people, both Negro and white to get it through the Senate.

Passage of the anti-poll tax bill, it was possible he said, was a part of the general fight against fascism and, there-fore, the necessity of electing out-standing men. In pointing out that Congressman Vito Marcantonio, with the people's help, had been largely instrumental in getting HR-7, anti-poll tax bill, through the House, M. Connolly said it would take the unified pressure of all the people, both Negro and white to get it through the Senate.

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LENA HORNE

'My Duty to Endorse Ben Davis', Says Lena Horne

Daily Worker

New York, N. Y.

Lena Horne, screen favorite of millions of Americans, declared yesterday that "it is my duty as an American to endorse Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., for City Council" because his platform "is for victory in the quickest possible time."

Miss Horne, currently appearing at the Capitol Thea-

ure, gave her fullest support to the American to endorse him for the City Council."

Vote Ben Davis Show" at the Golden Gate Ballroom this Sunday afternoon at 3 P.M.

Together with Mr. Davis, Councilman Adam Clayton Powell will be the main speaker.

Paul Robeson will appear in a scene from the current Broadway smash hit "Othello" in which he is appearing.

The famed Negro beauty lauded Fredi Washington. It is sponsored

The speaker outlined to the congregation the importance of the City Council as an aid in winning

enemy, "is a part of the defeatist

52a-1943

DR. TOBIAS DECLINES COUNCIL NOMINATION

Augusta, Ga. Herald
September 1 1943

Channing H. Tobias, Senior Secretary of the Colored Work Department of the National Council of Young Men's Christian Associations, has declined the nomination for the City Council of New York.

The native Augustan and former Paine College professor was unanimously nominated for the Council of Greater New York City by the Citizens Non-Partisan Committee, the City Fusion Party and the Republican Committee of New York County. Dr. Tobias was nominated as the candidate of these political organizations while absent from the city.

In declining the nomination, Dr. Tobias stated that "The demands of my regular work with the National Council of Young Men's Christian Associations of which I am an associate director, is in the midst of preparation for the forthcoming 15 billion dollar bond drive; the National War Fund, of which Board of Directors I am a member, is preparing to launch its $150,000,000 campaign for the month of October; and my continuing responsibilities in connection with membership on the National Advisory Committee on Selective Service and the Joint Army and Navy Committee on Welfare and Recreation call for an unusual expenditure of time and energy," and therefore would not permit him to "shift suddenly to new responsibilities."

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

RIVERS IS ENDORSED

Columbia Law Alumni Urge His Election to Bench

Formation of the Columbia Law Alumni Non-Partisan Committee for the election of Francis E. Rivers as City Court Justice in Manhattan was announced yesterday by Louis M. Loeb, who is chairman of the group. Other members of the committee are N. William Welling, secretary; Arthur M. Moritz, treasurer; Charles C. Burlingham, Edward R. Finch, Herbert W. Haldenstein, Carroll B. Low, James Marshall, Timothy N. Pfeiffer and Jonas J. Shapiro.

Mr. Welling, reviewing the candidate's career in college and in public office as an assistant district attorney, declared that "he is the kind of man that you would want to have sit in judgment in anything which involved you."

New York

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES AT RECEPTION HERE YESTERDAY



New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Left to right, seated: Thomas D. Thacher, nominee for judge, State Court of Appeals; George Frankenthaler, nominee for Supreme Court justice, First Judicial District, and Thomas J. Curran, New York County Republican chairman. Standing: Keyes Winters, nominee for judge of Municipal Court; John A. Ross Jr., nominee for City Council; Stanley M. Isaacs, nominee for City Council; David Peck, nominee for Supreme Court justice, and Meyer Goldberg, nominee for City Council. They are shown at the National Republic Club.

Negro and White Ministers Unite for Davis Election

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y

By Louise Mitchell

No man is a truer, harder fighter for the principles of Christianity for the brotherhood of man, and merits a place in the City Council than Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., a group of Negro and white ministers declared yesterday in unanimous endorsement of the Communist candidate from Manhattan.

Meeting at a luncheon sponsored by the Ministers Division of the Citizens Non-Partisan Committee to Elect Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., to City Council, the ministers proclaimed Mr. Davis' qualifications "first choice" as a tireless fighter in behalf of the common people.

The ministers who took upon themselves to visit and speak to Manhattan congregations in large and store-front churches, emphasized that only political action on the part of the people could achieve the better world they all desire. Communist Party activities were termed the modern equivalent of the teachings and practices of Christ.

URGES CHURCH SUPPORT

"Miracles are happening all over the world," said the Rev. Ethelred Brown of the Harlem Unitarian Church, "so it won't be a miracle if Mr. Davis is elected."

The reverend read a section of a letter sent to him by the editor of the Christian Register in Boston which congratulated him on his political activities.

"I wish more of our ministers took an active part in electing the right councilman," it read.

The "miracle" of Mr. Davis' election can come to pass, said the Rev. Alger Adams of the St. Philips Church, "and I want to have some part in it."

The Rev. Paul Streich of the Christ Evangelical Church asserted that it "was high time the citizens of New York assured a permanent place for the people of Harlem on the City Council. We must do everything to assure this representation."

SPEAKS FOR POWELL

Speaking in his own, as well as the Rev. Adam Clayton Powell's behalf, the Rev. Ben Richardson said that the Communist Party more closely approximates what Jesus stands for than any other group." He promised to do everything in his power to work for Mr. Davis' election because the candidate works for the welfare of Negro and white, Jew and Gentile. As religious editor of the Peope's Voice, he volunteered to devote each week's issue up until election time to the Davis campaign.

"If we are to achieve the brotherhood of man, the welfare of all humanity, we must make our preachings a reality by taking political action," the Rev. Denzil Carty of St. Luke's Chapel asserted. "We must prepare for our social responsibilities. We can set up a model brotherhood here in the days to come. Mr. Davis is a forward looking man who is fighting for that new world with its many changes that must come after the war."

Lavish in his praise and enthusiasm for the candidate was the Rev. James H. Robinson, chairman of the Ministers Division, who pointed out that Mr. Davis "represents the best aspirations, hopes and rights of a good many people." Fulfillment of many of these hopes and aspirations can be achieved by his election.

Audley Moore, campaign manager, dealt with organizational problems of bringing the campaign down to the sidewalks of New York. She thanked and praised the ministers groups for its excellent contributions.

Other persons present were Chaplain E. J. Melchert, Evangelist Reformed Church, and Susan B. Woodruff, an owner of the Freedom of the Press, Inc., which publishes the Daily Worker.

Powell Eyes Congress Race In Harlem In Fall

Defender SEP 4 1943

Chicago, Ill.

militant pastor and city councilman, will take his seat in congress this year rather Gavagan

NEW YORK. — (ANP) — Adam Clayton Powell Jr.,

cilman Powell announced from his home in Oak Bluffs, Mass., that he would run for the unexpired ter.n.

"Failure to do this will mean a great loss of Negro voters," he declared, "for it has been proven that the Negro electorate is behind me regardless of party."

Powell was elected to the city council with the labels of the Republican, Fusion and American Labor parties. He is a registered Democrat. For the past year h.. has been going along with the Democrats in the council. This fact plus other things have made them more favorably disposed to him. They recognize, of course, that he is a definite vote-getter.

Harlem has been redistricted so that it is guaranteed a Negro congressman. But election on the basis of the new lines does not come until 1944. The race this fall will be on the old lines, which brings in a large section of whites. More important, the Negro Democratic element in the district is controlled by Herbert [illegible], who defeat Powell vainly sought in the August primaries.

Unless Bruce can be persuaded to back Powell the pastor's chances for election become slimmer. Certain Tammany Hall leaders are trying to adjust this matter for Powell.

No r.nes have yet come to fore among the Republicans.

Daily Worker
New York, N.



A. CLAYTON POWELL

OCT 5 1943

Powell Endorses Davis for Council

Councilman Adam Clayton Powell officially endorsed the candidacy of Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., the Citizens Non-Partisan Committee to Elect Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., to the City Council announced yesterday.

The Negro Councilman, leader of the Abyssinian Baptist Church and publisher of the People's Voice, told a Harlem meeting on the Hillburn situation Sunday that he hoped Mr. Davis "will succeed me in the City Council."

Calling upon the gathering to vote for the Communist candidate, who has received outstanding non-partisan backing, the Negro Councilman said that Mr. Davis was "qualified" to represent New York County citizens in the city body.

"I feel sure that Councilman Powell's win-the-war decision to support Mr. Davis," said campaign manager Audley Moore, "will strengthen Mr. Davis' chances for election to the City Council. By taking this action, the Rev. Powell is continuing to act as a true representative of the interests of his people. He is carrying out the will of the voters who sent him to the City Council and want to see a progressive N[illegible] continue in office."

ALL-STAR ELECTION SHOW

Meanwhile, Broadway and Hollywood artists indicated their decision to vote first choice for Mr. Davis and stage a huge all-star show at the Golden Gate Ballroom in Harlem on Sunday afternoon, Oct 24.

The show will be a tribute to a great Negro, said Teddy Wilson famed pianist, who is chairman of the Artists Committee to Elect Benjamin J. Davis, Jr.

The campaign to bring out the Harlem vote will be climaxed tonight at an open rall[illegible] in front of the Lincoln Douglass Community Center, [illegible]

Outstanding actors, singers, dancers and musicians to appear at the Golden Gate rally will be Paul Robeson, Teddy Wilson, Lena Horne, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Teddy Wilson, Mary Lou Williams, Coleman Hawkins, Billie Holiday, Mildred Bailey, Jimmie Lunceford, Art Tatum, Hazel Scott, Ella Fitzgerald, the Berry Brothers, Billie Daniels, Betty Garrett, Lucky Roberts, Josh White and Pearl Primus.

Fredi Washington, well-known entertainer, will be master of ceremonies.

Speakers at tonight's outdoor rally include Larry Washington, chairman of the Lincoln Douglass Club, representing the Joint Board of Fur Dressers and Dyers; Mamie Battice, leader of the Women's Auxiliary of the National Maritime Union; Joseph Smallwood of Local 323, Amalgamated Meatcutters, AFL; Fritz L. Moorhead, Local 88, Fancy Fur Dressers and Dyers; Solomon Harper, member of the Federation of Engineers and of the New York Newspaper Guild; and Fannie Brennan, speaking for the women members of the Lincoln Douglass Club.

Additional support for Mr. Davis came from Local 948, Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, AFL.

The Ministers Committee to Elect Benjamin J. Davis, Jr. has launched a campaign to enlist the support of all ministers in Manhattan, the Rev. James H. Robinson, [illegible]rman, also disclosed yesterday.

The N.Y. Elections

Daily Worker New York, N. Y

THE Lt. Governorship race in New York, is despite all denials by "politics as usual" elements a contest between the forces of the President and those of Governor Dewey, Hooverite Republican, as the Republican candidate, Joe R. Hanley has himself made clear.

The city Councilmanic race, which New York City voters will decide on Nov. 2nd, is a struggle against the vicious politics-as-usual practices of the present Council majority, that amounts virtually to sabotage of the war effort.

Because the issue involved is the all-out war program of the Administration, all labor and win-the-war forces should be united behind those candidates who support that program. Unfortunately, however, that unity does not exist and even some sections of labor have become sidetracked by secondary issues.

Thus, the state leadership of the AFL contrary to the will of the AFL membership endorsed the candidacy of Hanley because of narrow craft and other such considerations.

There are numerous other complicating factors that may tend to blur the issue if labor does not keep its eye on the ball.

One of these is the fight on Judge Aurelio. Aurelio must be defeated. But the Republicans seek not the defeat of Aurelio but the exploitation of the fight to obscure the war issue behind the cry of "political corruption." They are getting most effective assistance in this from the "liberal" New York Post, which, whatever its intentions, seems bent on defeating Haskell by its handling of this issue.

The Dubinsky-Rose leadership of the state ALP is also a major factor in fostering disunity. Thus, it prevented the unity of all political forces behind a single candidate to oppose Aurelio through the nomination of Matthew Levy without prior consultation by all parties concerned. By its continued warfare against progressives in the ALP, it is still hampering the maximum unity behind Levy.

By its factional warfare, it is also making it possible for the obstructionist group in the Council to take over completely, so that despite all actions will be lost. It continues to ignore President and those of Governor Dewey, the most powerful section of ALP supporters, the New York CIO movement, refusing to endorse such candidates as Michael Quill.

The nomination by the Republicans of Francis E. Rivers, Negro attorney, for the post of City Court Judge in Manhattan was made solely in order to win Negro votes for Hanley. If the matter were left to the Democrats or to the "right wing" of the ALP the Republicans would have had clear sailing since both opposed the nomination of a Negro candidate and did not themselves nominate any Negro candidate for any office. Fortunately, New York County ALP leaders, by nominating Rivers on their slate, made it possible to vote for him and for Haskell on the ALP line.

Labor and other pro-Roosevelt groups who want to see a victory for the all-out war candidates should seek rapidly to overcome these divisive factors and to organize a unified movement for the election of Haskell and win-the-war councilmen. There is not too much time left.

All contests depend considerably upon registration. If labor does not register its members, its influence at the polls will be greatly decreased. **The prime necessity of the moment is to get out the vote.**

Powell To Seek Seat In Congress

Democratic Nomination for Seat in Congress

City Councilman Adam Clayton Powell Jr. formally announced yesterday his candidacy for Congress [illegible]

Chicago, Ill.

Rev. Powell said he would not be a candidate for reelection as councilman from the new 20th district in Harlem, standing in the primaries of the Republican, Democratic and American labor parties.

NEW YORK—(ANP)—The Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr., pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist church and Fu-Democrat.

New York Times
New York, N. Y

POWELL ENTERS RACE

Seeks Democratic Nomination for Seat in Congress

City Councilman Adam Clayton Powell Jr. formally announced yesterday his candidacy for Congress [illegible]

"Failure to do this will mean a great loss of Negro voters," Mr. Powell declared, "for it has been proven that the Negro electorate is behind me regardless of party."

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No rifts have yet come to the fore among the Republicans.

52a-1943

New York

Principals In Harlem Primary Elections

New York Age
New York, N. Y.



HERBERT L. BRUCE
Incumbent, 21 A. D.



DANIEL BURROWS
Incumbent, 19 A. D.



J. RAYMOND JONES
Bruce's Challenger



FRED DICKENS
Burrow's Challenger

Above are the principals in the two major primary election contests in Harlem which were being decided on the 21st as The Age went to press Tuesday evening. Last minute statements from all candidates claimed victory. The political dopesters, however, figured Bruce to win over Jones and retain leadership of the 21st Assembly District and Dickens to unseat Assemblyman Burrows as leader of the 19th Assembly District.

Ben Davis, Jr. Name Filed

SEP 8 1943

recent years he has been working as a journalist, first as editor of the Negro Liberator and then as an associate editor of the Daily Worker. He is secretary-treasurer of the Freedom of the Press. Co., Inc., publishers of the Daily Worker, and is county chairman of the Communist Party.

In Brooklyn the American Labor Party substituted on the City Council ballot the name of Richard Mazza for Joseph Kehoe. Abraham Berknopf was substituted for Samuel Neuberger as the other ALP candidate.

Mazza is the manager of Local 76-B of the United Furniture Workers Union.

Berknopf is the administrative director of Local 65 of the United Wholesale, Retail and Warehouse Workers of America.

Davis and Rivers Candidacies Lend Interest to Drive

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Max Gordon

The Negro Labor Victory Committee has opened what is perhaps the most extensive campaign ever launched to get out the Negro vote.

It is distributing 100,000 circulars in Harlem, Bronx and Brooklyn, as well as in the shops, addressed to Negro trade unionists and their families. It is planning to get out posters. The circulars and posters feature the slogan "Back Up Your Beefing with Ballots—Register and Vote."

The Committee is concentrating its efforts among the 30,000 Negroes who belong to unions affiliated with it and their families. It is asking each member to sign a pledge, which is part of the circular, that he will register and vote this year.

NEGRO VOTE

Considerable interest is attached to the Negro vote in the coming elections. The Republicans have made attempts to capture it by the appointment of a Negro assistant district attorney Francis E. Rivers to the city court bench to fill a vacancy created by the death of Justice James C. Madigan. Since the term ends this year, they nominated Rivers to succeed himself.

The Republicans also nominated a prominent Negro, Dr. Channing H. Tobias, to the City Council. When Dr. Tobias declined to run because the Republicans made it clear that they did not intend to make a campaign for him, the GOP chieftains substituted a Negro, John A. Ross, Jr., who is un-known.

In making these nominations the Republicans were by no means trying to promote Negro people to office. The fact is that they knew that a Republican, running alone, cannot win the city judgeship in New York County. Madigan was a Democrat.

They also knew that there was no likelihood of a Negro Republican winning the election to the City Council unaided. They figured, however, that these nominations would help them get votes among the Negro people for their chief candidate, State Senator Joe E. Hanley, running for Lt. Governor.

PLAY INTO GOP HANDS

The Democrats in New York County played into their hands by refusing to nominate for city judge one of the several Negro candidates approved by the County Bar Association. They nominated, instead, Joseph T. Higgins.

The American Labor Party in the county, however, in line with its general principles and practice regarding the fight for Negro rights, shrewdly countered the move of the Republicans by naming Rivers as its candidate for city judge. This makes it possible to elect Rivers.

The difference between the ALP action and that of the Republicans in nominating Rivers is that the former acted in the full knowledge that Rivers can be elected as a result of its action, while the Republicans acted in the belief that he could not be. The Republicans do not nominate Negroes except to posts they think they can't win.

Because of the ALP move, Lt. General Haskell, the Democratic and ALP candidate for Lt. Governor, may win many votes from Negro people on the ALP line which he otherwise would have lost.

Another important factor regarding the Negro vote is the campaign for the election of a Negro for the City Council to take the place of Councilman Powell who refused to run. Ross cannot win because the Republicans will not give him any support outside of Harlem, and two other prominent figures have the Republican designation. Only one Republican is likely to be elected.

DAVIS CAN WIN

There is a Negro candidate, however, who can win Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., the Communist candidate. Davis is widely known in Harlem as an outstanding fighter for progress and for the rights of the Negro people. He is getting phenomenal support from leaders of all sections and parties among the Negroes. In addition, he will get many thousands of Communist and progressive labor votes outside of Harlem.

The number of first choice votes he gets outside of Harlem should place him well above Ross in the running, and Ross' elimination should give him many second-choice Negro votes. A third Negro candidate, the Socialist Layle Lane will probably run considerably behind the other two. Her second choice votes will probably go mainly to Davis.

In any case, the registration figures for Harlem will probably decide the issue. If there is a large Negro registration and vote, the chances of Davis as well as of Rivers, will be much greater. A large registration may assist in adding another councilman to the number elected. There is one Councilman chosen for every 75,000 ballots cast. This gives considerable significance to the campaign of the Negro Labor Victory Committee to register the Negro vote.

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For Council

Daily Worker, New York

The New York County Election Campaign Committee of the Communist Party yesterday announced that it has substituted the name of Benjaming J. Davis, Jr., for councilman with the Board of Elections.

The name of Carl Brodsky was withdrawn last Friday when it became definitely known that no outstanding Negro candidate would run for the city councilman in New York County.

Mr. Davis is 40, a graduate of Amherst and Harvard Law School. Actively associated with Negro legal defense activities in the South, in

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Brodsky Withdraws For Ben Davis, Jr.

Daily Worker, New York

Marking the first example of its kind on record, a white candidate for City Council last night withdrew from the Councilmanic race in order to give place to a Negro nominee.

Carl Brodsky, Manhattan Communist candidate, yesterday filed his declination for the office with the statement that his withdrawal was prompted by his desire to see a Negro member in the Council from Manhattan, in which Harlem, the world's largest Negro community, is located. Mr. Brodsky's nomination was backed by 5,031 signatures filed with the Board of Elections, Tues-day.

Other Communist candidates for City Council are Councilman

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DAVIS IN RACE

Stating that the withdrawal of Terming Mr. Davis a candidate who could rally "not only the Negro community, but also progressive citizens throughout the entire borough," name of John A. Roth, Jr., a Negro attorney from Harlem, for Dr. Channing Tobias, of the Negro secretary, said that Kehoe had declined because his trade union side of Mr. Tobias, but nothing official was announced. Paul Crow-man A. Clayton Powell to run again leaves no outstanding Negro candidate for progress and therefore creates a tragic situation," Mr. Brodsky continue to fight alongside Davis against "shameful Jim Crow ism and against the proposed Jim Crow housing project."

Mr. Brodsky pledged that Labor Party headed by John W. Torchin and Samuel Crawford and Max Neuberger, attorney. In a statement issued in behalf of the county committee, Torchin, its executive secretary, said that Kehoe had organizational activities would keep him on the Pacific coast during a large part of the election campaign.

Mr. Davis' agreement, to act as his campaign manager in the current campaign," he added.

"I have volunteered, and have withdrawn from the race of Councilmanic candidate, and Joseph Brodsky said.

"I am withdrawing from the race tonight," Mr. Davis said. "I feel so deeply about the matter that I am withdrawing from the race tonight," Mr. Brodsky said.

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that he did so to make possible the nomination of a leading trade unionist.

The full text of Mr. Brodsky's statement follows:

"Withdrawal of Dr. Channing Tobias, an outstanding figure in the Harlem community, from the councilmanic race, changes the Manhattan situation considerably. Since Councilman [illegible] Clayton Powell, Jr., is not running for re-election and Dr. Tobias insists on withdrawing, it means that Harlem is without an outstanding candidate. There is the bleak prospect, therefore, that the Council will have no Negro member from Manhattan.

"I and my Party regard that as a tragic situation. As a member of the Jewish people I can appreciate what it means not to have the great Negro minority represented.

"I feel so deeply about that matter that I am withdrawing from the race tonight and urging my committee on vacancies to substitute for me Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., nationally known Negro leader and chairman of the New York County Communist Party.

"I am suggesting Mr. Davis' name in the belief that around him can be rallied not only the voters of Harlem, but progressive citizens of the entire borough. Through him the Negro people and all progressive citizens of the borough will find a true voice in the next City Council, a tribune of the people and a staunch supporter of President Roosevelt's win-the-war policies.

"I personally intend to play an active part along with Mr. Davis in the struggle against shameful Jim Crowism and continue our fight against the proposed Jim Crow Stuyvesant Town housing project and for complete respect for the constitutional rights of all citizens. I have volunteered, and have Mr. Davis' agreement, to act as his campaign manager in the current campaign."

Mr. Davis is 40, a graduate of Amherst, where he played football and of the Harvard Law School. Actively associated with Negro legal defense activities in the South, in recent years he has been working as a journalist, first as editor of the Negro Liberator and then as an associate editor of the Daily Worker. He is secretary-treasurer of the Freedom of the Press, Co., Inc., publishers of the Daily Worker, and is county chairman of the Communist Party, the only Negro to head a Party organization in this city.

Lauds Carl Brodsky On Withdrawal

SEP 21 1943

Carl Brodsky's withdrawal from the councilmanic race in favor of Ben Davis, Jr., was "a noble deed," according to William Gaulden, member of the Fur Dressers and Dyers Joint Board.

Daily Worker - New York

Gaulden declared that Brodsky has "made it possible for the people of New York to have a Negro representative in the City Council during the incoming term."

Mr. Gaulden's statement is contained in a letter to Mr. Brodsky at the headquarters of the New York County Election Campaign Committee, Communist Party, 147 Fourth Ave.

After complimenting Mr. Brodsky and observing that "too often we are prone to look for errors" as a basis for criticism and to keep silent about a [illegible]eed" Mr. Gaulden continues:

"First of all, this is the first time in the history of American politics that I have ever heard of a white person's withdrawing his name as a candidate to endorse a Negro and place his name on the ballot for an outstanding position. It is the type of thing I have read about but never seen in actual life.

"Years ago, when your party nominated Mr. James Ford to run on your ticket for the position of Vice-President of the United States, many of my friends said that it was a gesture made to the Negroes by your party because they knew that neither he nor any other candidate nominated by the Communists would win. The position you have taken on the candidacy of Mr. Davis, at a time when you could have remained in the race and won, certainly has confirmed the sincerity of your party on Mr. Ford."

The letter concludes by saying that "a lot of unnecessary misunderstanding between the races" would be avoided if other political parties followed the Communists' example and that "the Negro people and the white progressives will see to it that Mr. Davis is elected to the City Council."

Powell's Refusal To Accept Second Term In Council Provokes Concern

New York-Age

New York, N. Y.—Officiel announcement by Councilman A. Clayton Powell, Jr., that he would not be a candidate for re-election this fall turned local interest toward the coming political season this week. Powell made the statement during debate on the floor of the City Council last Tuesday. Later he told reporters he planned to run for Congress in the new Twentieth District in Harlem, next year. He plans, he revealed, to enter the primaries of the Republican, Democratic and American Labor parties seeking the congressional nomination.

Reactions to the announcement which was also made in the People's Voice, the local weekly of which Powell is listed as editor in chief, were immediate. Professional politicians viewed the announcement as a direct repudiation of Democratic Leader Herbert L. Bruce of the 21st assembly district whose organization, two weeks ago, unanimously endorsed the councilman for re-election.

Bruce is being opposed for the leadership by the Carver Democratic Club which is supporting J. Raymond Jones and has the open backing of Powell. Voting in the primary elections had not ended as The Age went to press Tuesday evening.)

Draft Powell Campaign

From the rank and file of community residents, however, were heard beginnings of murmurs which may easily develop into a "draft Powell for Council" movement. Although local political bigwigs were either to busy with the primary elections of preferred not to make a public statement "this early," the man in the street was not so hesitant.

First of the [illegible] statement came from Archbishop Alvin H. Collin of the Coptic Church, 133rd street, who said: "It would be a tragic mistake and a clever trick that cannot be overlooked if Rev. Dr. A. Clayton Powell fails to run again for the City Council. It would look as if pressure was put on from somewhere. In my judgment the better thing for him to do is to run again then, next year, resign and name his successor and then run for Congress. I say with authority that if this latter course is not followed the people of Harlem will revolt against him and he will be out of the picture."

A quick street poll was taken by The Age on Seventh avenue on the question. Because of the unwillingness of most persons questioned to give their names, all identification is withheld. Those approached were asked first if they lived in Harlem, if they were voters and then if they agree with Rev. Powell in his decision not to run for the Council again this year but wait and run for Congress next year.

One middle-aged woman was emphatic. "I can't believe Rev. Powell is going to let us down like that," she said. "I voted for him and worked for him last time and when he got elected I was mighty proud. If he doesn't run again I don't know any other Negro who could win and it would be a shame if we didn't keep a Negro Councilman now that we have one."

A male defense worker had this to say: "I know we need men like Rev. Powell to fight for us in Congress but I can't see giving up a place on the City Council just for that. I think he should go back to the Council first. He can resign and then they'd have to name another Negro. Then when he is elected to Congress we'd have both."

Two women who admitted being members of Abyssinian Baptist Church of which Rev. Powell is pastor were a little confused about the situation. "If Rev. Powell thinks it's best not to go back to the Council," said he. "I guess he knows. He sure would be a good congressman. But I hope he's not letting somebody else tell him what to do like I hear," she added. Her companion nodded agreement silently.

A young, business-like looking woman answered readily. "Adam is making a mistake," she declared crisply. "He's looked upon as a leader now and he can win and continue to win. But if he refuses to go back to the City Council and no other Negro gets in, a lot of people will be disappointed. And next year, when he wants to run for Congress some of those people will start to wonder again if he will want to quit as soon as he's in. It looks to me as if he's been getting some bad advice somewhere."

An elderly man said: "Rev. Powell seems to be getting some pretty big ideas. I don't think he ought to rush in for Congress yet. Those congressmen are pretty slick fellows and Adam might have more trouble than he thinks. He's a lot of talking in the Council but the Council ain't Congress. I think he'd be smarter to stick with the folks here in the city until he's had a little more experience."

Defender Chicago, Ill

GOP Names Tobias As Candidate For N.Y. Council Seat

NEW YORK.—The executive committee of the New York county committee, last week, named Channing Tobias, well known Y.M.C.A. Congress next year

Tobias is senior secretary for Negro work for the National Council of the Y.M.C.A., and has been an associate director on the Commission on Interracial Cooperation since 1935.

The naming of Tobias followed announcement that Dr. Powell will not be a candidate for re-election but will run for Representative in

Davis Is Council Nominee

Daily Worker, N.Y.



"Lots of luck, Ben," is Carl Brodsky's greeting. Brodsky, Communist candidate for the City Council, yesterday withdrew in favor of Ben Davis, noted Negro Communist leader. —Daily Worker Photo

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New York

Davis, Sr., Georgia GOP Leader, Backs Son Here

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Benjamin Jefferson Davis, Sr., prominent Republican leader in Georgia, yesterday appealed to all Republicans and "lovers of freedom and good government" to vote for his son, Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., running for City Council from Manhattan.

Mr. Davis, Sr., urged voters to support the candidacy of the Harlem leader, running on the Communist ticket with wide non-partisan support, "without regard to race or party."

In a letter to his son, Mr. Davis, Sr., who is publisher of the National Baptist Publishing Board which issues the National Baptist Union Review, declared:

"I am a Republican, and have been all my life. I have been a delegate from the State-at-Large to every Republican National Convention, beginning in 1912, through 1940. Six years of this period I was National Republican Committeeman from Georgia; and served as Secretary of the Republican State Executive Committee of Georgia for 18 years; and am now president of the Young Men's Republican Club of Georgia.

"In addressing this letter to the Republicans of New York and all lovers of freedom and good government, I appeal to such persons to support the candidacy of honorable Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., who is making a race for City Council. Mr. Davis believes this is the day for the Negro to stand for what a candidate for public office means to the race rather than the man."

Pointing out that Mr. Davis, Jr. is a candidate to succeed the Rev. Adam Clayton Powell in the City Council, Mr. Davis, Sr., also called upon all good citizens to support the Rev. Powell in whatever political race he may engage.

Councilman Powell has already endorsed Mr. Davis, Jr., as "my logical successor to City Council."

"I solicit the friends of good government," entinues the letter, "without regard to race or party to support these two men. If elected they will represent the people and not the politicians. I have many friends and acquaintances in New York and believe they will serve the best interests of their race and country by supporting Mr. Davis, Jr."

Local 370, Dining Car Employees, AFL, heard Mr. Davis, Jr. Wednesday night on election issues facing the people of New York. The candidate stressed the need for a speedy termination of the war which could be brought about by the immediate opening of a second front.

Present at the meeting were Theodore Jackson, president; George Brown, general chairman; and Claude Mason, secretary treasurer. A large audience applauded Mr. Davis, Jr.'s remarks

Harlem Seeks Role in City's Political Life

The Worker
New York, N. Y.



BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR.

By JAMES W. FORD

THE most remarkable development in the past three weeks in Harlem is the stir created by the people in support of Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., Communist candidate for the New York City Council. Ben Davis is also receiving endorsement from labor unions and wide acclaim among circles throughout Manhattan. In my experience I have never witnessed a situation which has thrown such panic into reaction as the response to the campaign of the Communist candidate.

Harlem is breaking her chains. The Negro people are rising to their rightful place in the political life of our city. No longer are the exploiters of their political power able to get away with insulting the intelligence of Negro voters or hoodwinking them. The Negro community refuses to be robbed of a place in the political life of the city. The Negro people are also seeking full alliance with all patriotic and genuinely democratic forces to make New York a better city, and to forge solid unity to win the war. It is an irrefutable truth that the Communist Party has played a prominent part in this new political outlook of the Negro people.

The war has produced profound changes among the Negro people in Harlem. It has set in motion new currents of thought and action. It has not only brought forcibly before the nation the necessity of the fullest use of the skill of Negro labor but it has radically changed the life and living habits of all the people and forced them to rethink new thoughts and outlines new paths of struggle and action. It has brought about a new and stronger basis of unity among all the people as nothing else has done.

The issue in this campaign, therefore, is the war. It is democracy for the Negro people. Many of New York City's Councilmen and some of those running to be elected to the City Council are guided by de-featist and obstructionist policies. They want to break up unity of the people. They do nothing about price ceiling, rent control, slums and child welfare.

These reactionary politicians, under the influence of the policies of the Hearst press, the Daily News and Mirror and World-Telegram, hamper the war effort. They profit from discrimination and chaos which this produces in our city. They represent all that is reactionary and imperialistic. They want to maintain this city as the citadel of monopolistic interests from which flows Negro hating, anti-Semitism and the busting of labor organization. These are the kind of people that have got to be removed and kept out of the City Government of New York.

We had a shocking example of what racial discrimination leads to in the recent outbreak in Harlem. The Negro people above all hate the vicious discrimination that was the cause of this outbreak. The overwhelming majority of the people of this city likewise condemn these conditions.

It is on the successful prosecution of the war and the fight for the Negro people that Benjamin J. Davis bases his campaign for the City Council.

The Communist candidate is a valiant champion of the rights of the Negro people, the solution of which is an acid test of democracy. With the support of patriotic citizens throughout Manhattan, Ben Davis is determined that the power of reaction be broken completely in this city, and that all people, irrespective of their religious faith or racial origin be permitted to give their fullest energies and capacities to the winning of the war. The wiping out of every vestige of discrimination would be an inevitable guarantee that this war would be won decisively and quickly. The Negro people stand ready to make their full measure of contribution in this endeavor.

In the fight against fascism the Negro people have a major responsibility and a stake. First of all they must be solidly united among themselves on an anti-fascist program. The emergence of a personality like Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr., who is retiring from the City Council, is the stamp of the dignified, serious political development and trend toward unity among the Negro people. Councilman Powell established a fine record and set a high standard of political conduct during his tenure of two years in the City Council. He maintained the closest working relations with the labor and progressive forces. In consequence of his high responsibility to the Negro people and in his desire to see that adequate cooperation is maintained between the Negro people and the labor-progressive forces Councilman Powell gave serious consideration to his successor to the City Council. His wise counsel which flows from deep stirring among the Negro people was shown by his forthright endorsement of Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., "as my logical successor to the city body." This endorsement led to the establishment of a broad people's non-partisan committee in Harlem in support of the candidacy of Ben Davis.

Second the Negro people must establish the closest and most solid collaboration with the labor-progressive forces outside of Harlem. Dr. Powell has pioneered in this respect. He worked closely with Congressman Vito Marcantonio in the establishment of the Harlem Legislative Conference some years ago which brought together the broadest unity between the people of Harlem and the progressive labor forces, heretofore achieved in New York.

In 1941 Dr. Powell was endorsed by the American Labor Party as a running mate to Eugene P. Connolly, the present candidate of the American Labor Party. Dr. Powell stated recently in a letter to Eugene P. Connolly: "We were running mates in the last campaign, and your support was one of the contributing factors that led to my election." In this election it would be desirable that the same close relations be established between the candidate of the ALP and Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., the candidate of the Negro people.

Vote-for-Davis Show

Famous Stars Promote

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

With this clarity of purpose, his platform, artists such as Hazel Scott, who is rushing her Hollywood commitments in order to be back for the October 24 at The Golden Gate Ballroom.

Paul Robeson, who has been militant in his fight for equal rights for minority groups in the south as well as the north, says: "With Adam Powell's withdrawal from the race for City Council, we must throw the weight of our voting power behind Ben

artists will present to the public Ben Davis who will outline

To assure the election of Ben Davis to City Council, a group of internationally known artists have banded together to put on a Vote-For-Davis show on Sunday afternoon, October 24, at The Golden Gate Ballroom.

Pearl Primus, Mary Lou Williams, Josh White, Teddy Wilson, Dolores Del Rio, Mildred Bailey, Count Basie, Lucky Roberts, Lena Horne, Coleman Hawkins, Duke Ellington and Fredi Washington de-

The show is being sponsored by the Citizens Non-Partisan Committee and tickets will be scaled from 55c up. Proceeds will be used for campaign expenses.

Come out to see an all-star show and do your bit to insure yourself of a representative in your City's government.

Ben Davis, Jr.

Nor only in New York itself is there a deep interest in the candidacy of

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

enjamin J. Davis, Jr., Negro Communist
ader running for City Council. This
despread interest evolves from a number
factors. Both the New York City and
te elections this fall are being watched
roughout the nation, as a test of the
ength of win-the-war forces as against
litical opportunists and downright defeat-
s. To say that the present City Council's
cord in this respect has been disappoint-
g is an understatement. In the hands of a
-or-die Tammany majority, the Council
s consistently turned down proposals of
progressive minority to protect and im-
ove the welfare of the people and there-
augment the city's contribution to the
r effort. Worse, the Council's majority
s deliberately interfered wherever it could
th the war work of the Mayor and the
unicipal departments. All of which makes
ubly urgent the election of progressives
no fully understand the issues of this war.

In the light of these facts, look at Ben
avis' qualifications. Graduate of Amherst
d of the Harvard Law School, he first
came known nationally as attorney for
ngelo Herndon, whose historic case was
ccessfully fought all the way up to the
preme Court. He had already spurned
e easy opportunity of a successful law
actice in his home city of Atlanta and
sociated himself instead with the Com-
unist Party as a means of serving his
vn people. In Harlem, where he has re-
ed for a number of years, he became an
tstanding civic leader. A hundred per-
nt supporter of the President's war pro-
am, a leader of the Negro people,
tionally as well as in New York City,
prominent member of the political party
hich has submerged all other considera-
ns to the paramount business of forging
national unity for victory against the Axis
—that is Ben Davis.

However, his election will not be easy. Voters' registration throughout the city has been disappointingly low, particularly in Harlem. Only if organized labor and other progressive forces throughout the county of Manhattan join with Harlem residents in placing Ben Davis high on their preferential list (we suggest first choice) will the city be certain of having a distinguished Negro leader on its new Council. He has been endorsed by scores of prominent Negroes, labor and civic leaders, and leaders in the arts. Councilman A. Clayton Powell, Jr., has called upon the people to put Ben Davis in the Council to succeed him.

Joseph Curran, president of the Greater New York Industrial Union Council, in conveying to Davis the endorsement of his organization, wrote: "You received the unanimous endorsement of the Council delegates because of your uncompromising support of the win-the-war program of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and your fight for the rights of the Negro people."

It is up to the electorate to back such endorsements with action—by putting Ben Davis and other fig ting progressives on the City Council.

New Masses
ew York, N. Y.



Nominated



Defender
Chicago, Ill.

FRANCIS E. RIVERS
Named to the $17,500 per year post of city justice by Governor Dewey, he was renominated by the New York Republican organization to run for the job again in November His appointment marks the first time a Negro was given such a high paying or high ranking position in the state The appointment runs only to January but his renomination is for a full ten-year term.

Harlem Tenants to Rally Behind Davis Candidacy

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Organized tenants in Harlem, still plagued by exorbitant rents and dilapidated living accommodations, are meeting tonight to put the finishing touches to a campaign to elect the man who has fought vigorously for better housing.

The tenants will complete plans for a broad mass meeting to be held for Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., Oct. 28th at the Urban League, 204 W. 135th St. The gathering will be held under the auspices of the Tenants' Division to Elect Davis to the City Council, made up of many members of the Consolidated Tenants' League.

Mr. Davis is known throughout the Negro community for his staunch fight against the Metropolitan Insurance Co. housing project which is discriminating against Negroes. He has led several delegations to the Office of Price Administration at the Empire State Building to protest the higher than usual rents charged Negro tenants and local landlord's violations of voluntary rent control.

Prominent in the struggle for rent control for Harlem, as well as for the rest of the city, has been Donelan Phillips, head of the Consolidated Tenants' League, which has waged a consistent struggle against Harlem's sordid living conditions.

In his office yesterday, Mr. Phillips said that there were still some 500 complaints on rent violations which will not be entirely cleared up until the rent freeze order goes into effect Nov. 1 on the basis of rents charged March 1, 1943.

Tenants, he said, are waiting to see what happens on Nov. 1 and intend to fight every landlord who attempts to demand increases.

The long, consistent fight of the Consolidated Tenants' League in the last year against rent violations is credited by many tenant leaders as having made rent control possible here at this time. The fight to control Harlem rents benefited the rest of the city, they feel. Conditions in Harlem helped to expo the sham of voluntary rent contr

primaries of the Republican, Democratic and American Labor parties. Rev. Powell said he would not be a candidate for re-election as councilman. The minister is an enrolled Democrat.

"Thanks very much for the applause but I'd rather have the votes."

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan
A. CLAYTON POWELL, JR.
OUT FOR CONGRESS

New York, Aug. 13. (ANP)—The Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr., pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist church and Fusion-Laborite councilman from Manhattan, announced in the course of a speech he would run for the new 20th district in Harlem, standing in the

7,000 Cheer Ben Davis at Two Rallies

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Ann Rivington

If the people come out to the polls as they came out to the all-victory show in Golden Gate Ballroom yesterday afternoon, Ben Davis, Jr., will go to the City Council.

Ten minutes before the Ben Davis election rally opened in the giant ballroom, 142nd St. and Lenox Ave., at 3 o'clock, the place was jammed to its 4,500-person capacity. By 3:15 the Renaissance Casino, 121 W. 138th St., was crowded with an additional 2,300 and the fire department was turning away hundreds of Negro and white citizens.



A. Clayton Powell

When the Communist candidate walked down the aisle of the Golden State to the platform the entire audience leaped to its feet and rocked the hall with applause.

Councilman Adam Clayton Powell, in an eloquent speech, pledged his support to Ben Davis.

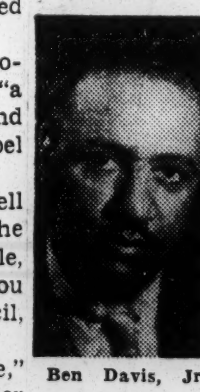
"I want to see a man of the people in the Council," he said, "a man who walks on the ground, and I don't care what political label he wears.

Ben Davis must be elected, Powell urged, "to guarantee that the break-through we, the people, made two years ago, when you elected me to the City Council, shall be maintained."

"My people have come of age," Councilman Powell said at another point, "and they are not going to allow themselves to be divided any more."

"We won't let the fruits of this war die. We'll make it live on in every country of the world, until every slave shall be free and every toiler walk with dignity. We're going to have a people's world, and we're going to have it because we're willing to pay the price now."

Referring to the fact that Ben Davis is a Communist leader, Powell asserted that he would rather have "26 Communists sitting in the Council than a lot of Rankins from Mississippi." These are the only people, he declared, amidst applause, "who fought for us right through—who fought for Scottsboro, for Herndon, for 125th St." He continued: "If Ben Davis doesn't go to the City Council it won't be a defeat for him or me, but it will be a 'defeat for you, the people. He pointed out that work and "ringing doorbells" are necessary for victory.



Ben Davis, Jr.

Teddy Wilson, who shared the spotlight as master of ceremonies with Fredi Washington told the applauding crowd that Ben Davis represents "the new Negro, who

violinist, famed Max Pollikoff, also believes in fighting—and then also knows how." He introduced an all-star band that included Kenneth Clark and Ben Webster, with his Corelli Variation and a noc-turne of his own, told the audience

52a-1943

NEW YORK

Davis for City Council

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

SEP 9 1943

WHEN that veteran fighter for progress, Carl Brodsky, declined the Manhattan Communist nomination for City Council to make room for Benjamin J. Davis, he made political history.

Brodsky has a long history of struggle against oppression of minorities, including Negroes and Jews. Not only did he make room for Davis' candidacy, but he undertook the job of acting as Davis' campaign manager.

It is, of course, no accident that political history of that kind is made by a Communist. Communists, Negro and white, are outstanding fighters for the political, economic and social rights of the Negro people. They supported the Rev. A. Clayton Powell when he ran successfully for the Council in 1941. They were ready to support Dr. Channing H. Tobias when he was named a Republican candidate this year.

When Dr. Tobias declined the nomination, however, Brodsky stepped aside for Davis, who is one of the great national figures among the Negro people.

He is not simply the Communist nominee. He is, rather, the candidate of the Negro people, of labor and of all progressive people. He should get the active, public support of these groups.

Davis' election may well depend on or lost during registration week. The bigger the turnout, the more councilmen will be elected. All efforts must, therefore, be exerted now by Negro, labor and all other progressive win-the-war groups to ensure the largest possible registration.

Negro Editor Hails Brodsky Withdrawal

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

SEP 13 1943

William Harrison, associate editor of the Boston **Chronicle**, influential Negro weekly, writes the **Daily Worker** that Carl Brodsky's withdrawal in favor of Ben Davis, Jr., as a candidate for City Council "is without precedent in American politics, and points to Mr. Brodsky's "acute understanding of the necessity for improving race relations through increased participation of Negro Americans in the political life of the nation's greatest metropolis."

Mr. Davis, a Negro, is chairman of the New York County Committee and executive secretary of the Upper Harlem section of the Communist Party.

Mr. Harrison's letter follows:

"The withdrawal of Mr. Carl Brodsky as a candidate for the New York City Council from Manhattan in favor of Mr. Ben Davis, Jr., distinguished Negro lawyer and journalist, is without a precedent in American politics, so often [illegible] conspicuous lack of [illegible] racial cooperation. Mr. Brodsky's deed is symbolic of the national unity which must be strengthened for the speedy winning of this war. His action gains in patriotic significance from his own explanation of the primary motive which impelled him to his decision—his anxious concern over the absence of any Negro candidate whatsoever, owing to the refusal of Rev. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., to run for re-election and the withdrawal of Dr. Channing E. Tobias.

"Mr. Brodsky exhibits alert understanding [illegible] for improving race relations through increased participation of Negro Americans in the political life of the nation's greatest metropolis. Only traitors will deny that such participation of Negro Americans in the political life of the nation's greatest metropolic. Only traitors will deny that such participation everywhere is earnestly to b edesired and worked for by all Americans for the complete fulfillment of those democratic ideals which form the basis of true American system of government.

"The same kind of unity manifest in the Brodsky-Davis affair will yet bring about the enactment of a Federal anti-poll tax law, thereby increasing the participation of millions of white as well as Negro citizens in the processes of their own government in eight Southern states."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Militant Pastor Feels He Has The Backing Of Race

Party Label Is Chief Problem Ahead Of Minister

AUG 29 1943

NEW YORK— (ANP) —Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., militant pastor and city councilman, will take his seat in congress this year rather than wait until 1944 if the voters want it that way.

Swift changes on the political front here within the past 10 days participated by the sudden death of the Republican lieutenant govrenor Thomas W. Wallace, now find that out of the series of deals that were [illegible] the tickets of the five major parties the Harlem district which Joseph Gavagan has represented all these years has now become vacant.

WOULD NARROW FIELD

Both the Republican and the Democrats are seeking to narrow the fight down to the top job although there are a number of judgeships to be filled also. In the agreements that have been reached between the parties, reciprocal endorsements have been made one of which was the joint endorsement of Gavagan for the state supreme court for a 14 year term. This was announced last Tuesday. On Wednesday evening Counciman Powell announced from his home in Oak Bluffs, Mass., that he would run for the unexpired term

"Failure to do this will mean a great loss of Negro voters," he declared "for it has been proven that the Negro electorate is behind me regardless of party."

In spite of the councilman's self-assurance, there were still certain matters to be ironed out at press time, more important of which were strategy and party designation.

IS A DEMOCRAT

Powell was elected to the city council with the labels of the Republican, Fusion and American Labor parties. He is a registered Democrat. For the past year he has been going along with the Democrats in the council. This fact plus other things, have made them more favorably disposed to him. They recognized, of course that he is a definite vote-getter

On the other hand, Powell has made a few commitments here and there and has made statements which need a very heavy iron to smoothen. One in particular is his recent comment in his column, "The Soapbox," that he does not need the help of district leaders.

Harlem [illegible] redistricted so that it is guaranteed a Negro congressman, but election on the basis of the new lines does not come until 1944. The race this fall will be on the old lines, which brings in a large section of whites. More important, the Negro Democratic element in the district is controlled by Herbert L. Bruce, whose defeat Powell vainly sought in the August primaries.

AUG 29 1943

MUST COURT BRUCE

Unless Bruce can be persuaded to back Powell sincerely, the pastors chances for election become slimmer. Certain Tammany hall leaders are trying to adjust this he may hit a snag before he announced publicly that when he made the run in 1944 he would enter all the primaries. This type of thinking doesn't set right with the hall Whoever runs must be picked by the party leaders.

No names have yet come to the fore among the Republicans. The withdrawal of Powell from the mit him to prepare for the 1944 council race this year was to perfight. Channing H. Tobias, YMCA secretary for colored work, has been named by the Republicans tax for the council. Good sources say that the idea was to build him up for the congressional campaign in 1944. The chances are that the GOP will pick a white person for the unexpired term, and stick to their plans for Tobias for next year.

DR. TOBIAS DECLINES COUNCIL NOMINATION

AUG 31 1943

NEW YORK, N. Y. — (SNS) — Channing H. Tobias, senior secretary of the Colored Work Department of the National Council of Young Men's Christian Associations, has declined the nomination for the City Council of New York and in so doing has issued the following statement:

"I am deeply grateful for the[illegible] to become a candidate for the honor conferred upon me by the Council of the City of New York Citizens Non-Partisan Committee. I am also grateful for the expression of the City Fusion Party and the Re-sions or confidence and offers of publican Committee of the County support made by thousands of of New York. In notifying me friends of all political parties. These during my recent absence from the assurances have certainly warmed

WORK IN WAR CITING

"The demands of my regular work with the National Council of Young Men's Christian Associations are exceedingly exacting at this time; the New York State War Finance Committee, of which I am an associate director; is in the midst of preparation for the forthcoming billion dollar bond drive; the National War Fund, of which Board

"Therefore, as eager as I am to join the forces of good government in the coming campaign through the City Council, I fel that I cannot in fairness to the obligations mentioned above, shift suddenly to new responsibilities. While I cannot be a candidate, I promise to do what I can to help elect high grade men to the Council and to impress upon the leaders of all parts of the just claims of the Harlem community."

Personal candidacy for the City Committee on Selective Service and the Joint Army and Navy Committee on Welfare and Recreation call for an unusual expenditure of time and energy.

B. J. Davis, Jr.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

In Council Race

NEW YORK—(A N P)—Explaining his desire to see a Negro in the council from Manhattan after creation of "a tragic situation" through Dr. Channing Tobias' withdrawal from the race and Councilman A. Clayton Powell's announcement that he would run for congress, Carl Brodsky, Manhattan Communist candidate, last week filed his declination with the board of election. At his suggestion he will be replaced by Banjamin J Davis, Jr., Lawyer and journalist.

Brodsky said that as a member of the Jewish minority he could appreciate what it meant to Negroes not to have a representation in the council. He added that he suggested Davis' name "in the belief that around him can be rallied not only the voters of Harlem, but progressive citizens of the entire borough. Through him the people of Harlem and all progressive citizens of the borough will find a true voice in the next city council, a tribune of the people and a staunch supporter of President

"I personally intend to play an active part along with Mr. Davis in the struggle against shameful Roosevelt's win-the-war policies. jim crowism and continue our fight against the proposed jim crow Stuyvesant Town housing project, and for complete respect for the constitutional rights of all citizens. I have volunteered, and have Mr. Davis' agreement to act as his campaign manager in the current campaign."

Davis, 40, son of the former Republican national committeeman from Georgia, is a graduate of Amherst college and the Harvard University law school. He has long been active in legal defense work in the south and at one time edited the Negro Librator, and served as associate editor of the Daily Worker. He is secretary-treasurer of the Freedom of the Press Company, Inc., publishers of the Daily Worker and is county chairman of the Communist party in the only Negro party head in this city.

People's Candidate---

Ben Davis, Jr.

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Ann Rivington

Introducing Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., the Communist Party's candidate for City Council from Manhattan, campaigning for the people.

[Carl Brodsky, Manhattan Communist, originally nominated, withdrew to give the place to Davis. He said his withdrawal was prompted by his desire to see a Negro member in the City Council from Manhattan, in which Harlem, the world's largest Negro community is located.

Brodsky explained the withdrawal of Dr. Channing Tobias from the race left no outstanding Negro in the race, and therefore advanced Ben Davis' name and offered to be his campaign manager.]

Campaigns are nothing new for Ben Davis, the well-loved Negro leader, at once genial and earnest, who is chairman of its New York County Committee and executive secretary of the Upper Harlem Section of the Communist Party.

Politics, indeed, has been in the air he has breathed from childhood. His father was a Republican National Committeeman for Georgia when Ben was a boy. Since those days, the Communist leader of today has travelled a road of steady, inevitable political growth which has led to his present position.

Ben will tell you that the fighting traditions of his people, the necessity to struggle all his life against the indignities of Jim-Crow from which all Negroes still suffer, made the path towards freedom lead of necessity to the Communist Party.

AMHERST, HARVARD

That path led, for Ben, through Amhurst and the Harvard Law School. At Amherst, he was a football star and revelled in the comparative democracy of New York City on his vacations. Never, however, was he able to quite forget the prejudice that everywhere to some degree permeated his life, as it does the life of every Negro in America.

As he studied law in Harvard, he came to understand the fascist-like legalistic technique of repression used against Negroes in the South for what it was. His righteous anger deepened.

Back from University in Atlanta, Georgia, the young Ben played championship tennis and practiced law. But it was not long before something made him forget the tennis.

That something was the Herndon case.

In January, 1933, Ben Davis became defense attorney for Angelo Herndon, Jr.

Soon Ben discovered that it was his young client who was doing the defending — of him, and all humanity.

One day the prosecutor referred to Herndon as "this nigger." Ben demanded, with great fire, that this "insult to the Negro people be



BEN DAVIS, JR.

ruled out by the court, and that my client be referred to as Mr. Herndon."

PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

That day, Ben Davis became the people's tribune. He's been a leader in his people's fight for freedom and equality ever since. Today with America fighting freedom's war, his leadership assumes greater significance than ever.

In 1934, Ben Davis gave up his law practice, and came to New York as editor of the **Liberator**, fighting publication. Later he became an editor of the **Daily Worker.**

Outstanding was his press campaign for passage of the Anti-Lynch Bill, and against the vicious film, "Gone With the Wind."

Last November, Ben Davis, as Communist candidate for Representative at Large, polled 47,907 votes, more than any other Communist candidate in the New York elections. Scores of Negro leaders from every political camp endorsed his candidacy. "Any Negro who does not vote for Davis," said the Rev. Thomas S. Harten, vice-president of the National Baptist Convention, "is a traitor to the cause of Jesus, the Negro people and the country."

500 JOIN C. P.

Ben Davis' broad shoulders have the strength for many tasks. Under his leadership during the past spring recruiting campaign 500 new members were recruited into the Communist Party in Upper Harlem. When the Harlem outbreak occurred last month, he was one of the Negro leaders of the community called upon by the City administration to help quiet the disturbance.

Ben Davis derives his strength from the people. During the campaign last year, he said, "I would not be worthy of my people or my Party if my campaign was not built in around the issues and struggles which confront the people.

And now the people's champion campaigns again.

Powell Calls for Big Negro Registration

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Any Negro who fails to register is politically lynching himself, his family and his race, City Councilman Adam Clayton Powell told the Negro people of New York in a signed editorial in the current issue of the Peoples Voice, Harlem newspaper.

Councilman Powell is the only Negro in the City Council and is head of the powerful Peoples Committee of Harlem. His warning was delivered as the city is preparing for the registration period starting next Monday and extending to Oct. 6.

"Ten million blacks and whites are fighting in the poll tax states for the privilege of voting," the editorial said. "We have the privilege in New York and we must use it."

In discussing the candidates to be supported, Councilman Powell urged the people of Manhattan to

support the two Negro nominees for the City Council, Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., and John Ross, Jr. He predicted that if both receive Negro support one will be elected. Davis, who is the Communist Party candidate, is receiving wide backing from trade unionists, Negro and white, and from many

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

COUNCILMAN-ELECT DAVIS CALLS HIS ELECTION THE ACHIEVEMENT OF ALL PROGRESSIVE PEOPLE OF COUNTY; ANSWERS DAILY NEWSPAPERS FOR ATTACKING CAMPAIGN

Age
New York, N. Y.—

At a press conference in the Hotel Theresa, attended by reporters from the metropolitan press, Benjamin J. Davis, jr., Councilman-elect, on Saturday, refuted insinuations in the World Telegram and other metropolitan papers that his election was due to appeals to racialism.

"My election to the City Council is the achievement of all the progressive people of New York County of all national and racial origins, religious and political beliefs, who saw in my candidacy an opportunity to be represented by a councilman fully devoted to the defeat of Hitlerism abroad and to the defeat of all fascist manifestations at home. Jim crow, anti-Semitism and racial discrimination of all forms must be outlawed in our city, as a necessity for victory," Davis said.

"I was elected by a coalition of our Negro and white citizens,—by voters affiliated with the Communist, Democratic, Republican and Labor Parties as well as by the independent voter. This unity of the people broke through the old established party labels; this unity measured my candidacy on the basis of what I stand for; this unity was not influenced by party affiliations; nor by racial or religious differences.

"It is crystal clear that it cannot be said that I was elected by Harlem alone or by the Communist Party alone. The vote, taken by election districts, proves conclusively that I was the choice of the people, identified with all religious, racial and national groups; civic, fraternal, and labor organizations."

Breaking down the vote by which he was elected, Mr. Davis pointed out that he received 20,000 votes from the Negro people and 23,000 from white voters. The membership of the Communist Party in New York City he placed at 6,000. Mr. Davis pointed out that he received 6,000 second choice votes from Eugene Connally, an Irishman, and 600 second choice votes from Meyer Goldburgh, Jewish. Many of his second choice votes would [illegible] to Eugene Connally and to Stanley Isaacs.

On questioning by reporters, Mr Davis criticized the statements in the World Telegram on his campaign, which he said "have no other effect than to discredit proportional representation. Proportional representation is one of the most democratic electoral systems we have ever had."

To Represent All People

Mr. Davis said that he considered himself not only the representative of the Communist Party, but "rather the representative of all the people of New York County, and I pledge to serve their best interest in accordance with their desire and will."

"I shall support every genuine win-the-war measure introduced in the Council, no matter with what party it originates. I shall work tirelessly in fighting jim crow and anti-Semitism, eliminating racial discrimination from the Stuyvesant Project, in fighting discrimination against Negroes on the faculties of our city colleges, in fighting discrimination in the Nurses Training, in fighting for a public market in Harlem and for better educational and recreational facilities. I shall press for the investigation of the text books used in our schools and colleges and for an investigation of the public utilities and all other industries which discriminate against workers because of race, creed, or color or political affiliation."

Ben Davis Victory in New York Election Stumps the Experts

Kansas City, Mo

By CARL D. LAWRENCE

NEW YORK. — (ANP) — When City Court Justice Francis E. Rivers was elected recently to a judicial post paying $17,500 a year, that was indeed big news.

With more than 20,000 votes to spare. Justice Rivers had won fairly and squarely over one of Tammany Hall's most popular white candidates, Joseph T. Higgins, and had succeeded in doing what most politicians believed to be impossible.

The fact that one-third of Harlem's vote went against Justice Rivers didn't matter much. That only added to the significance of his victory.

"It's a healthy sign," one observer declared, "because it shows that Negroes, too, are thinking beyond the narrow limitations of race."

Another Story

But Ben Davis Jr., a Communist, was elected also. That, judging from most local dailies, was bad.

Mr. Davis, only son of Georgia's once famous Republican National committeeman, was elected to the city council along with three whites, one a Jew—the others Irish, the official tally showed last Wednesday.

Since that time, every newspaper in town except PM, The Worker and the three Negro publications have agitated in favor of changing from proportional representation to the old board of alderman system.

Democrats Lose Contest

The World Telegram's attack was levelled at the fact that Democrats lost much of their control while Communists showed a distinct gain. Editorial writers on The Times, Herald Tribune, Mirror, News and Sun wondered, by implication, whether Negroes had suddenly turned to Stalin for salvation.

Elected To City Council



BENJAMIN J. DAVIS. Jr.

Similarly, they also explained that Davis and other extreme leftists had spent large sums of money and played up the race angle to Jews, Italians, Negroes and the Irish. Nobody could honestly deny that, of course, but neither could the critics of Communism deny that the Democrats and Republicans have been doing the same thing for years.

So it boils down to the interesting fact that local Communists got the Jump on the major political parties and wrapped rings around them by using the Tammany technique to perfection.

Councilman-elect Davis, who will be sworn in on Jan. 1, spent slightly more than $15,000 —contrary to daily newspaper estimates of $35,000. But Harlemites raised $10.000 of that amount at their one big Golden Gate rally for Davis.

Stump the Experts

In attempting to figure out the Davis victory, the "experts" were actually stumped this time. As a matter of fact, they hadn't given Davis a possible chance. One reason the Democrats did not sponsor a candidate (Negro) was because they never believed he could win.

Nobody bothered in the meantime to consider what part Councilman A. Clayton Powell would play in the election. The politicians won't make the mistake again, of course, because the Davis victory proved that Councilman Powell wields more influence than any other individual in Harlem. Powell, at his showmanship best, proclaimed everywhere he went that Davis' victory would be a people's victory.

He asked Harlem voters to make Davis No. 1. He asked them to go to the polls early and make sure their friends did the same thing. He repeated over and over "Ben Davis is my logical successor."

Most voters believed Councilman Powell, took his advise and went to work for Davis—regardless of party affiliation. To many, Davis was an excellent candidate and the fact that he was a Communist didn't matter.

Now that it's all over, voters still don't care about Davis' Communism. As a woman Republican leader asked: "why should we care? I think it would be a good thing if we sent a few Communists up to Albany and there's absolutely nothing wrong with starting out next year."

Benj. J. Davis, Jr. Winner Of Seat On City Council

Age
New York, N. Y.

Councilman-elect Davis calls his election the achievement of all progressive people of county; answers daily newspapers for attacking campaign

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Benj. J. Davis, Jr. Winner Of Seat On City Council

Age
New York, N. Y.

New Deal Weakens Under Ballot Blows:

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

Rivers Snatches Judgeship In Republican Landslide

NOV 6-1943

Rivers wins! That was the chorus that rocketed through Harlem Tuesday night as confirmation came over the radio and word went out from the political clubhouses that the jurist, recently appointed by Governor Dewey, had won a smashing victory at the polls as he snowed his opponent, Joseph T. Higgins, under a veritable avalanche of votes by an unexpected majority

of about 24,000. As a result of this decisive verdict by the electorate of New York County, Rivers ascended to the bench as a justice of the City Court—the highest judicial post ever held by a Negro in the history of New York State. Rivers was regular organization designee of both the Republican and American Labor parties.

In the race for the City Council, early reports from workers and watchers indicated a strong preference for Ben Davis, only other Negro on the Manhattan slate conceded an even or better chance at election. Davis, his opponents admitted, was conceded to be "the candidate to beat" because it was known he had the combination of a solid Negro and progressive vote in his pocket.

Scattered but significant voting indexes in Brooklyn showed Norman Johnson, Republican organization choice, making a gallant bid for a councilmanic seat from the Boro. If successful, as indicated, he, like Rivers, will make political history for he will be the first Negro elective representative in the history of Kings County.

Both Johnson and Davis must wait for the tedious tallying of the pencil-marked PR ballots before they will definitely know their fates. Both, however, are confident.

In the sole major statewide contest, State Senator Joe Hanley, Republican standard bearer, outdistanced Maj. Gen. William N. Haskell, Democratic and ALP choice, who had the backing of both the administration and liberal forces throughout the state. Haskell, as was expected, rolled up a topheavy margin in the city but was unable to stem the Dewey-inspired upstate Republican sweep.

Rivers, as was anticipated, carried the Harlem districts by good margins, still the vote for the successful judicial candidate fell considerably short of that hoped for by uptown leaders. Because of the rare opportunity presented to the voters to elect a Negro to the post for the first time, it was felt that the vote would be almost unanimously Rivers.

The Harlem vote did exceed the pre-election calculations of the political seers. Based purely on registrations and past voting, loss of the 17th AD was expected by a margin of about 700. The district, however, landed in the Rivers column by some 2,000 majority. In the 19th AD, where an even battle was anticipated, the judge had another 2,000 edge. In the 21st AD, presided over by Herbert Bruce, Rivers' margin was better than 3,000. Returns from the 22nd AD (the upper western side of the Sugar Hill section) were both spotty and late but indications were that the breakdown would show Rivers grabbing off a sizeable edge in the balloting.

Rivers went to the post with the endorsements of Mayor LaGuardia, Governor Dewey, Wendell Willkie, and the membership of the bar association, to spur him on and to convince the voters of the high calibre of the candidate. In the face of acceptance by both the Republican and ALP camps, the Democrats refused to bow to the popular will and entered Higgins in a futile attempt at obstruction.

The voters, ignoring party, racial and religious lines, accepted the verdict of capable judges of judicial fitness, and acted accordingly. As a result Rivers retains his $17,500 post in the City Court.

The people of New York. My election was a victory not alone for the Negro people, but also for labor, the Jewish people, and all progressive people who want to win the war abroad and win the war for equality and democracy at home.

"My election is a vindication of the principle of unity between my people and labor movements and all other decent democratic people who want that their city might be made a better place in which to live, and to win the war as speedily as possible.

"Thanks again from the bottom of my heart to those who worked tirelessly that New York City might again have a Negro on its highest legislative body."

Also declared elected in Manhattan at the same time, were three incumbents, Councilmen Stanley Isaacs, Jo[illegible]gent and William Carroll. Isaacs is a Republican and Nugent and Carroll are Democrats.

Over in Brooklyn, the count was still in progress when The New York Age went to press, but little if any hope was held that Norman B. Johnson, Republican and only Negro in the field, would be elected.

Negro Papers Laud Davis Candidacy

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

SEP 17 1943

Ignored by the metropolitan daily press, Carl Brodsky's withdrawal from the Manhattan Councilmanic race in favor of Ben Davis, Negro, has won favorable attention in two of New York's Negro weeklies.

Mr. Brodsky and Mr. Davis are both members of the Communist Party, a fact which the papers, the **New York Age** and the **New York Amsterdam News**, particularly note in their stories of what the **Age** characterizes as "the first example of its kind on record." Both papers seem to be aware of the fact that only in the Communist Party would a white man, whose nomination, as the **Age** puts it, "was backed by 5,031 signatures filed with the Board of Elections," give way to a colored man.

GREET ACTION

The **Age** story makes the following observation:

"Stating that the withdrawal of Dr. Channing Tobias from the race and the refusal of Councilman A. Clayton Powell to run again leaves no outstanding Negro in the race, and, therefore, creates 'a tragic situation,' Mr. Brodsky advanced Mr. Davis' name and offered to be the latter's campaign manager."

The **Age** further cites the fact that Brodsky referred to Davis as a candidate who could rally "not only the votes of Harlem but also progressive citizens of the entire borough" and that the retiring candidate "pledged that he would continue to fight alongside of Mr. Davis against shameful Jim Crowism and against the proposed Jim Crow Stuyvesant Town housing project."

The story gives brief summary of Mr. Davis' background as college student and **Daily Worker** editor, recalling that "Mr. Davis is the son of Benjamin J. Davis, So., former Republican national committeeman from Georgia."

The **Amsterdam News** story notes that "the Communist Party filed a declaration for Carl Brodsky, its white candidate, substituted the name of Ben Davis, Jr., son of the nationally known Atlanta, Ga., Republican leader." This, coupled with the fact that the New York County Republican Committee has nominated a Negro, John A. Ross, Jr., leads the **Amsterdam News** to feel that "Harlem still has a chance to elect a Negro successor to Councilman A. Clayton Powell, who declined to run for a second term."

The story adds:

"Mr. Davis, this city's outstanding Negro advocate of Communism, is secretary-treasurer of the **Daily Worker**. He is also chairman of the New York County Communist Party and a staunch defender of President Roosevelt's 'win-the-war policies.'"

SEP 17 1943

CIVIC RESPONSIBLITY

Age

WHILE OUR BOYS are fighting the enemy abroad and are using bullets, those of us here on the home front will have the opportunity to back their attack by using our ballots and insuring the election of men and women who have pledged to give us good government so essential to the well-being of the boys when they return from the far-flung battlefields. We owe it as a duty to those overseas, as well as to ourselves, to use our ballots wisely on election day, November 2nd.

In New York State, an important battle will be decided in the race for Lieutenant Governor. [illegible] all-important Presidential campaign next year, New York has become the battle-ground and what New York does may well decide what the rest of the country will do next year. Ordinarily, the office of Lieutenant Governor of New York State is not such an important position. But this is no ordinary election, because a friendly Lieutenant Governor of the same party may well release Governor Thomas E. Dewey and allow him to become a candidate for the Republican nomination. Obviously, a Lieutenant Governor of opposite political faith would prevent Dewey from relinquishing his state post lest the Democrats again take over the state government which they lost last year after more than 20 consecutive years in power.

OCT 30 1943

SEP 17 1943

New York, N. Y.

NEW YORK

Choice of The New York Age for Lieutenant Governor is Senator Joe Hanley, Republican. Senator Hanley is present Acting Lieutenant Governor and has a splendid record of service as a legislator to commend him to the voters. His opponent, Lieutenant General William N. Haskell, Democratic-American Labor candidate, is a fine military man, but not a statesman. We're fortunate in having two men of such calibre as candidates; both would be splendid public officials. Our choice, however, is Senator Hanley and we urge your vote for him on Election Day.

OCT 30 1943

Next in importance is the State Supreme Court. There are eleven candidates for the seven places on this high court. One of those candidates, former Magistrate Thomas A. Aurelio, Republican-Democrat nominee, should be defeated because of the scandal which was revealed by District Attorney Frank Hogans about his method of securing the nomination. The Republicans have desigated George Frankenthaler as an independent candidate for that office in the hope that enough intelligent and aroused voters will elect him and defeat Aurelio. We hope they do. The bench should have one sitting on it who is beyond suspicion. Mr. Frankenthaler is not only an able lawyer, but also is thoroughly qualified in every respect. We urge your vote for Frankenthaler on Election Day and any of the other candidates you might select, except Aurelio.

Next of importance on the machine—and of extreme importance to Negroes in Manhattan, is the office of City Court Judge. The race stands to maintain a gain it made when Governor Dewey appointed Assistant District Attorney Francis E. Rivers to the bench to fill a vacancy until January 1, 1944 when a newly-elected judge will be seated on the bench as a sucessor to the late Judge James C. Madigan.

Here, again, in this office, Negroes and all voters, regardless of race or religion, are fortunate in having two very able candidates of opposite political faith. Opposing Judge Rivers, Republican-American Labor candidate, is former Collector of Internal Revenue Joseph T. [illegible], Democrat. Both candidates are well known in Harlem. Judge Rivers is a former Assemblyman in the 19th A. D.; former candidate for Municipal Court Justice in the 10th Municipal Court District; and until his appointment to the bench, was the highest ranking Negro prosecutor in the New York County District Attorney's Office. Mr. Higgins is a former athlete active in Harlem, a former Sheriff of New York County and for eight years Colector of Internal Revenue, during which time he appointed more Negroes to important positions pointed more Negroes to important posiHM under him than any other Colletcor.

OCT 30 1943

Merely to urge Judge Rivers' reelection because he is a Negro would immediately inject the racial issue into the campaign and would hurt his chances in the rest of the county in which he runs. There can be no gainsaying the fact that we are proud of the fact that he is a Negro, however, and we're proud of the fact that he is the first member of the race to sit in the City Court. For racial reasons, we want to see him continue on the bench, because it will mean another step forward for Negroes. We do not support him for racial reasons alone. We urge his election because the Bar Association, which evaluates all judicial candidates, has selected him as more qualified as a practising lawyer, and has held that his opponent, Mr. Higgins, has not had the wide legal experience enjoyed by Judge Rivers. We urge your vote, therefore, for Judge Rivers for City Court.

Of local importance, even though the office is also voted for on a county-wide basis, is the election of the City Council. There are four N[illegible] candidates, 3 in Manhattan and 1 in Brooklyn. [illegible]gro representation in the City Council, we feel, is the all-important consideration and should transcend party lines. Proportional representation (we opposed it originally and still do as an idealistic and impractical method of election) is supposed to guarantee minority representation. Minority representation can be gained by minority groups only by voting unitedly for minority candidates.

That being the case, Negroes can gain representation in the City Council only by voting for Negro candidates first and then voting for their other coices. In Manhattan, we urge that Negro voters mark their ballots in one, two, three order for the Negro candidates first, and then voting for as many other candidates as they desire.

Recommendation of the order in which we urge you to vote for these Negro candidates in Manhattan comes only after long and serious study of the candidates, their potentialities and performances. The known of the three Negro candidates and the Socialists and the Communists to name strangely enough is least well name a Negro candidate. So it remained for only major party candidate, John A. Ross, for the first time, the Democrats failed to the other two Negro candidates both of

OCT 30 1943

whom outshine the Republican candidate in experience and public acquaintance.

In Miss Layle Lane, whose column appears on this page every week, the Socialists have nominated an able candidate, an experienced school teacher, an active civic worker and a fighter in her own right, notably in the March On Washington Movement. In Benjamin Davis, Jr., the Communists have nominated an able lawyer, an active worker in trade union movements, a writer and a fighter in his own right; he has also been schooled in politics as the son of Benjamin Davis, Sr. former Republican national commiteeman from Georgia. Neither candidate represents a party in which Negroes are enrolled to any appreciable extent, but in our evaluation of them, we should forget their party labels. They deserve our vote, not because of their party, but in spite of their party affiliations, because they are eminently qualified.

So to be practical, we urge Negroes to vote (1) for Ross, (2) for Lane, and (3) for Davis. Voting in that order will, if we are to judge from past P. R. elections, aid in the election of the strongest of the three candidates. Councilmen Stanley Isaacs and Meyer Goldberg, running for reelection should also be given votes. And a new-comer in the political arena, Alan Corelli, founder of the Negro Actors Guild and present national ex-executive secretary of the Theatre Authority, Inc., should not be forgotten as one who would be a vaulable addition to the City Council.

In Brooklyn, we urge united support for the candidacy of Norman B. Johnson, Republican feeling that it is high time that the City of Churches was [illegible] and start electing Negroes to public office.

To recapitulate, we urge your vote for:

Lieutenant Governor—Joe R. H. Hanley
Supreme Court—George Frankenthaler
City Court Judge—Francis E. Rivers
City Council (Manhattan in the order named)—(1) John A. Ross, Jr.; (2) Layle Lane; (3) Benjamin Davis, Jr.. and Stanley Isaacs, Meyer Goldberg, and Alan Corelli according to your preference for 4, 5 and 6.
City Council (Brooklyn)—Norman B. Johnson.

Go to the polls on November 2nd and do your civic responsibility!

52a-1943

North Carolina

Citizens Ticket Gets Negroes' Endorsement

Representatives of Two Groups Appear at Council Session; Prepared Statement Read

Unqualified endorsement of the Citizens' ticket, embracing Mayor Currie and the majority Councilmen, in its campaign for re-election was given by two Negro organizations in a statement read at yesterday's City Council by Dr. J. S. Nathaniel Tross, Negro leader.

The name of Councilman Claude L. Albea was inserted in the typewritten copy and he was included in the group of majority Councilmen upon whom praise was heaped by the Negro spokesman.

The approval, Dr. Tross said, came from the Community Crusaders and the Negro Citizens League. The delegation representing the two organizations, besides Dr. Tross, included Henry Houston, the Rev. H. E. Wilson, and the Rev. G. E. Archibald.

NEGRO STATEMENT

The statement in full reads as follows:

"Two years ago we came before you with a prayer for the privilege of assisting you in saving the name and reputation of our beloved city from the stigma of crime and social neglect. We admitted at that time that Negroes were responsible for 83 per cent of the major homicides of Charlotte. We attempted at that time to cite causes and to suggest remedies.

"We brought to your attention the slums, the [illegible] alleys, the narrow, muddy, dusty, unpaved streets within calling distance of the seat of our municipal government. We placated the congested, insanitary, and vermin-infested homes in which 78 per cent of our Negroes live; areas of crime were defined; and while our community rocked in smug complacency Negroes were the first to voice their alarm at the rising tide of juvenile delinquency; and we had the temerity to impose and intrude upon the sanctity and dignity of your assembly in bringing before you living exhibits of the city's social neglects resulting from the absence of recreational facilities, homes for delinquent Negro girls, trade schools for Negro boys, better police protection, truancy officers, and city-sponsored day nurseries.

"To all of these prayers you were tolerant, patient, sympathetic, responsive and co-operative. We came to you with new seeds to be sown in a soil that until then had resolutely and religiously resisted social cultivation; it was impervious to every attempt on our part to even hint at the social and economic plight, and the yearnings and aspirations of the Negro.

"The rigidity with which our pleas were ignored was fearsome and humiliating. Negroes had the impression that they were being resisted by every means at the disposal of the Council. But at the very outset of your administration a new star of hope rose for the Negroes of Charlotte. We renewed our requests; but because of circumstances with which we are too well acquainted it was inadvisable and inexpedient for you to be precipitous in your answers to our prayers.

"Of necessity, therefore, your response to our petitions had to be cautious, slow, partial, and clothed in experimental garb. Nevertheless, today we are happy, not in the realization of all our hopes and dreams, but in an ampler participation of Negroes in our municipal life and well-being.

"The progress has been slow but steady, and we can report today definite achievements toward the securing of adequate park and recreational facilities for Negroes. a day nursery, a Negro truant officer, a Bible teacher in our Negro high schools, five Negro police officers, a 50 per cent reduction in crime among Negroes; and improved race relations along all lines; there is less racial tension and disillusionment. In comparison, therefore, Charlotte no longer hangs her head in shame among the cities of the nation because of its crime record, or its racial antipathy.

"From far and near we have received white and Negro interviewers sent by outstanding and responsible institutions and organizations, inquiring into the progress and successes of our interracial life here in Charlotte. You, gentlemen, have made it possible for me to say to them without exception, and with no hesitancy that all will be well with us in Charlotte as long as men of your sympathies, understanding, and humanitarianism direct the destinies of the people of this municipality, county, and state. We shall have no fear that the luster of our faith will be tarnished, or that the radiance of our hope will be dimmed.

"I submit, Mr. Mayor, and members of the Council, that this is only a beginning, a mere gesture of what a third of our Negro constituency is entitled. But speaking for the Community Crusaders and the Citizens League of this city I have come to say to you that without reservation we trust the future in your hands. I voice their appreciation, and their gratitude, and pray for your continuance in the work you have so well begun. Mr. Mayor, Mr. Beasley, Mr. Baker, Mr. Ross, Mr. Slye, Mr. Painter, Mr. Price, Mr. Daughtry, Mr. Albea, as beneficiaries of your interest, your sympathy, your understanding, your justice and goodwill we join you in the crusade for good government, in the conviction that good government springs from justice, equity and goodwill."

Democrats Oust Boykin as Council Candidate

Baltimore, Maryland
Afro-American

Last-Minute Party Move First Split in Democratic Ranks; Millen Gains Ground

PHILADELPHIA

In an unusual last-minute political move, John H. Boykin of 4926 Brown Street, previously endorsed for one of the five councilmanic seats in the Fourth District, was dropped by the Democratic party, it was learned on Monday.

The action marked the first split in the Democratic ranks. Almost simultaneously the campaign of Herbert E. Millen, assistant director of public safety, independent candidate for nomination as a municipal court judge, began to gain momentum.

Boykin, a resident of the Forty-fourth Ward in West Philadelphia, was endorsed by the Democrats several weeks ago. Democratic candidate for city council two years ago, he was defeated by James H. Irvin, local mortician and present incumbent.

Says Protests Responsible

Mass protests on the part of colored Democratic committeemen in West Philadelphia are said to be responsible for the shelving of Boykin and the consideration of Robert N. C. Nix, attorney, and Dr. Rudolph Winston to replace him as the party's candidate.

A meeting of colored committeemen from the wards West of the Schuykill River was held Sunday by the Democratic City Committe with Jim Clark, chairman, presiding. It was reported that Boykin and Alton Berry, another candidates, are out of the picture, with Nix holding the advantage over Winston.

A final meeting to name the candidate will be held at Democratic headquarters on Thursday night. Nix, president of the colored committeemen's organization for the past five years, is said to have the edge because of his organization position. Councilman James Irvin is slated for Republican party renomination.

Reynolds Faces Contest

Magistrate Joseph H. Rainey, who was endorsed weeks ago by the Democrats for renomination, and Hobson H. Reynolds, slated at the last minute for magistrate by the Republicans, are both waiting for the primary. There seems to be no question about either being nominated. although Reynolds faces ten other Republicans seeking the same office.

Neither the Republican nor Democratic party expects to have any dent made in the slates they present to the public two weeks from now.

The candidacy of Herbert Millen progressed as "Millen-for-Judge" headquarters were opened all over the city. Those already opened are being operated by:

Mrs. Sarah Gilchrist, 336 N. Forty-first Street; Charles Hopkins, 1805 Bainbridge Street; W. R. Lewis, 525 S. Fifteenth Street; Paul Keene, Twenty-first and Ridge Avenue;

Mrs. Nellie Hazell, Democratic Women's Organization, 2005 N. Seventeenth Street; J. W. Holloway, 8224 Buist Avenue; W. M. Phillips, 3010 S. Eighty-sixth Street; W. C. Beckett, 237 W. Coulter Street, and 403 N. Forty-first Street.

In a statement from his headquarters at 13 N. Thirty-fourth Street on Monday, Millen said. "I am very grateful for the whole-hearted support now being given by all the citizens in this the people's fight for recognition."

Four Win In Philly Primaries

Kansas City Call

Kansas City, Mo.

But Candidate For Judge Loses Chance for Bench

SEP 24 1943

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—(ANP)—This city tried to show, at the polls last Tuesday, that it was in favor of a colored judge on the bench of the municipal court, but it didn't try hard enough.

Its 56,313 votes for Herbert E. Millen, assistant director of public safety, placed him sixth on both major party tickets in the final running for nomination in the city primaries. Ironically, only five judges were to be nominated.

Millen, who ran without the official support of either the Republican or Democratic parties, polled 36,988 votes from the former and 19,325 from the latter.

Unexpectedly large was the number of votes cast for him in wards and divisions where the population is predominantly white. Strangely enough, the vote was extremely small in some few heavily Negro-populated districts.

SEP 25 1943

Four other colored candidates, backed and sanctioned by the Republican and Demicratic organizations, rode to victory on the power of the parties.

Hobson R. Reynolds, Elk bigwig and former member of the state legislature, and Joseph H. Rainey, former newspaperman and present incumbent, won the Republican and Democratic nominations for magistrate, respectively.

Councilman James H. Irvin, seeking reelection to the city council on the Republican ticket, was successful. The Democrats, anchoring Robert N. C. Nix, won him the council nomination. Irvin is a leading undertaker; Nix a famed criminal lawyer.

The Benjamin Davis Election

Amsterdam News

The election of Benjamin Davis to the City Council is, in many respects, the most outstanding feature of the recent councilmanic contest. Following as it did closely behind the election of Justice Francis E. Rivers to the City Court, it proves conclusively that white voters will vote for qualified Negroes for political offices. Of course, some white and colored politicians have often denied this, either because of ignorance or because of their own selfish motives.

NOV 20 1943

Another important point to make about the election of Mr. Davis is that a well organized minority can elect its candidate to the City Council (under proportional representation), particularly if its candidate can win the support of another group of voters. The support thousand of non-Communist Negroes gave to Mr. Davis is what did the trick for him. Conversely, the support the Communist Party gave Councilman Powell two years ago greatly aided in his election. Rev. Powell was almost solidly supported by colored voters.

New York, N. Y.

NOV 20 1943

The most important of all points to make about the election of Mr. Davis, however, is that he is thoroughly qualified for his membership in the Council. A close student of social problems, courageous, honest and highly educated, Mr. Davis, son of a former Republican National Committeeman from Georgia, should be a real asset to the entire citizenry of New York as a member of its legislative body. At least we think he will be ,and congratulate him upon his whopping victory.

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

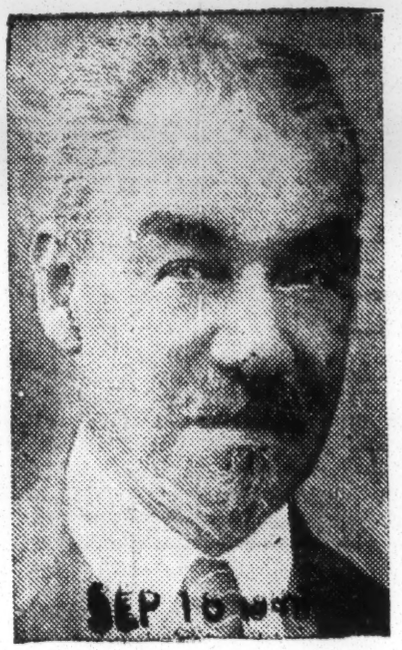
Four Successful Candidates, 1 Loser



Magistrate JOSEPH H. RAINEY was renominated for Magistrate on the Democratic ticket for a second term.



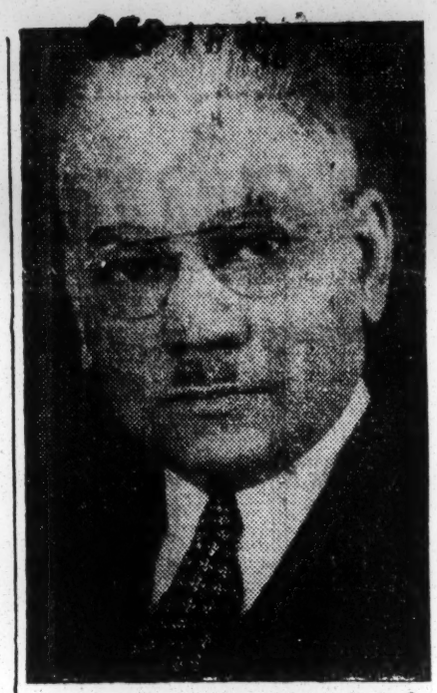
HOBSON R. REYNOLDS, Republican leader of the 47th Ward, was one of four Republicans nominated for Magistrate.



City Councilman JAMES H. IRVIN was renominated on the Republican ticket for Councilman from the 4th Councilmanic District.



Atty. ROBERT N. C. NIX, who was nominated for City Council on the Democratic ticket from the 4th Councilmanic District.



Assistant Director of Public Safety HERBERT E. MILLEN, running on both tickets, failed to secure the nomination for the Municipal Court Bench.

Negro Attorney Shows Great Popularity In Vote

Weekly Review

Nashville Negro Primary Victor

Birmingham, Ala.

NTSHVILLE, Tenn.— Standing tenth in a field of 43 candidates Z. Alexander Looby, Negro attorney and candidate for city councilman, rolled up a sufficiently large number of votes in the municipal elections here last Thursday practically to insure that for the first time since Reconstruction, a Negro will sit in the city governing body.

In the Fifth Ward, which Mr. Looby seeks to represent, he led his nine opponents, with a vote of 3,164. His nearest rival received 2,493 votes. Despite the ward divisions of the city, however, candidates from the seven wards and two candidates at large are all elected on the basis of the city-wide vote. The run-off, in which Mr. Looby has an excellent chance of election, will take place in two weeks. There were 18,000 votes cast and Mr. Looby's more than 3,000 is a good sixth of the total.

Mr. Looby made a dignified but spirited campaign. On Wednesday night his headquarters in the colored YMCA building were crowded with Negro campaign workers with some white citizens dropping in to wish them success. His total vote includes many white voters, local observers here said.

"We appealed for white support," said one of Mr. Looby's campaign workers, "and we got it." In advertisements placed in the daily papers, Mr. Looby's campaign committee pointed out that in a city with onet-hird of its population Negro, one Negro councilman out of nine shouldn't "offend and so-called tradition, prejudice or scruples of an honest intelligent fairminded white man or woman."

"Black men ore fighting and dying in foreign lands today for democracy, and too, for a government built upon the theory that taxation without representation is tyranny."

Mr. Looby is well known here for his active leadership in the fight for equalization of teachers salaries.

Ten years ago, another Negro leader, Dr. H. H. Walker, was elected to the city council, but was robbed of the victory by the crudest and most brazen skullduggery. When the count of the ballots was almost completed, and it was clear that Dr. Walker was going to win by a large margin, the lights suddenly went out. When they were restored, the ballot boxes had disappeared and were never found. The state attorney general ruled that inasmuch as Dr. Walker had not been certified, his election was not legal.

In 1936, Dr. Walker ran again. But on the night before the elections hoodlums staged a riot, in which a Negro was killed, and succeeded in preventing Negroes from going to the polls.

The year 1943 is considered something different. Mr. Looby is guaranteed the support of a section of white voters who see in his election an answer to those Bourbon disrupters who are trying to destroy national unity and to weaken the war effort.

KNOXVILLE ENTERS TWO IN CONTEST FOR OFFICE

The Plaindealer

Kansas City, Kan.

By O. B. TAYLOR

Knoxville, Tenn., Oct. 8. (ANP)—Negroes have entered C. W. Cansler in the race for membership on the school board, Prof. Cansler, member of one of the oldest and most distinguished families of the section and an outstanding educator for more than 40 years, he served as principal of the Beardsley Jr. High school prior to his retirement from the system a few years ago. He is also a member of the local bar association. Few, if any, are better qualified for the post he seeks than he is.

Dr. N. A. Henderson, a prominent local physician who has practiced his profession here for more than 16 years, seeks through his friends to win a seat on the municipal council. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, post graduate of Bellevue and Harvard universities. Both men have been active through the years in civic and social betterment of Knoxville.

Until the fall election the eyes of the southland will be focused on this mountain city with a Negro population of approximately 25,000. The political pot is already boiling with an intensity rarely ever equaled in these parts, and members of both racial groups in considerable numbers have pledged their support to the Cansler and Henderson ticket.

Political Meeting Held In Arlington County, Va.

Washington Tribune Washington, D. C.

SEP 25 1943

The political bee began buzzing in Arlington County Wednesday night when a meeting was held in the recreation building of the Carver Homes and some of the candidates appeared to tell why they thought they should be elected.

SEP 25 1943

All of the candidates present were Republican. Among those heard were J. Foster Hagan, Miss Anna F. Hedrick, Ralph Remington and John Paul Jones. The speakers were enthusiastically received and it appeared that they made a good impression on those present. [illegible] Hines served as chairman of the meeting.

This year's campaign looms as the most interesting that the county has witnessed for some-time. Republican candidates have promised the Negroes relief from some of the ills that they have suffered due to the rapid growth of the county.

Political leaders are out to elect two new members on the county board, due to the fact that the present board is reputed to be controlled by County Manager Frank Hanarahan, who has turned a deaf ear to all the wishes of the Negroes. The cry is Hanarahan must be curbed.

It is reported that there are quite a few Negroes who are qualified to register who have not registered. Those who do not get their names on the books before October 2 will not be able to vote. Leaders are out, trying to get these persons to the registrars before the deadline. The leaders are telling these tardy people that their only relief from bad streets, unsanitary living conditions and the other evils that they confront, is to cast a vote on November 2.

The Republican candidates who are seeking election are as follows: J. Foster Hagan, state senate; William P. Ames and Miss Anna Hedrick, house of delegates; Leroy B. Rider, commissioner of revenue; Oren R. Lewis, commonwealth attorney; Ralph E. Remington, clerk of the circuit court: H. Leeland Gaines, sheriff: John Paul Jones, trial justice; John Locke Green, treasurer; Henry S. Clay, [illegible] William C. Ayers, county board. All of these offices are now held by Democrats except that of treasurer and trial justice. John Locke Green, treasurer, is seeking reelection on the record made during the past four years. It is to be remembered that he defeated Charlie Jesse in the last election. The defeat of "Boss" Jesse was credited to the fact that he said he did not care for the Negroes' vote. The Negroes voted solidly for Green and he was elected by a [illegible] margin.

The Tribune learned from reliable sources that Green has made a wonderful record and will get the support of the Negroes for reelection. His opponent is reputed to be a Hanarahan man in view of the fact that Hanarahan has done nothing to relieve the discriminating conditions that exists in the county, his candidate will not get the Negro vote. It is also reported that there are quite a few white people who will vote for Green for this same reason. They want something done for the Negroes of the county. They have reason to believe that this will be done if Hanarahan's candidate is defeated.

52b-1943
Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Fostered By State N.A.A.C.P.

JAN 9 - 1943

To Be Introduced By Edwin Kenswil, Negro Legislator

JAN 9 1943

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. —One of the first bills expected to be introduced in the Missouri house of representatives which opens Wednesday, Jan. 6, is a civil rights bill to "protect all citizens in their civil and legal rights and fixing a penalty for violation of the same."

The bill will be sponsored by the Missouri State Conference of N. A. A. C. P. branches of which Sidney R. Redmond of St. Louis is president. It probably will be introduced by Attorney Edwin Kenswil, Negro legislator from St. Louis. Kenswil, elected in November, is the first Negro to sit in the Missouri assembly since 1929.

Drawn by Kansas Citian

The bill which the Missouri State N.A.A.C.P. will ask Legislator Kenswil to introduce was drawn up by Attorney Carl R. Johnson of Kansas City, chairman of the legal redress committee of the State N.A.A.C.P.

The bill will make it unlawful for any place of public accommodation or amusement such as cafes, theaters and hotels, to discriminate against persons because of color or creed. A penalty will be imposed for violation.

Such civil rights bills already are in effect in such states as Illinois, Michigan, New York and Ohio.

To Opening Session

JAN 9 1943

Carl R. Johnson, president of the Kansas City N.A.A.C.P. branch, and L. Amasa Knox, chairman of the branch's legal redress committee, were to be in Jefferson City for the opening session of the Missouri legislature.

"We will be there to extend best wishes of the Kansas City Negroes to our Negro legislator and to begin work for the passage of the civil right bill," said Johnson.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Equal Rights Bill Introduced in Mo. House

JAN 23 1943

NAACP Sponsors Measure to End Discrimination

526

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — A bill prohibiting discrimination in public places was introduced in the House on Saturday by Representative Edwin F. Kenswil, of St. Louis, only colored member of the State Legislature.

The measure is being sponsored by the State NAACP.

The bill provides that "all persons within the jurisdiction of the State of Missouri shall be entitled to the full and equal enjoyment of accommodations" in public places and the same access to public facilities.

Penalties Set

The penalty for conviction of violating terms of the proposed act would be a fine up to $500, one year imprisonment, or both.

The bill also provides that any person found guilty of discriminating against a citizen because of color, or of aiding or inciting such discrimination, shall for each offense pay $25 to $500 to the complainant.

JAN 23 1943

Kenswil is a member of the executive committee of the State NAACP and is the first colored Democrat to serve in the Missouri Legislature.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

St. Louis Negro Elected Alderman

APR 8 1943

St. Louis, April 7 (U.P.)—Municipal election returns disclosed today that St. Louis voters for the first time in history, had elected to the City Board of Aldermen a woman and a Negro.

APR 9 1943

The Rev. Jasper C. Caston, Republican Negro leader, defeated Joseph B. Schweppe, Democratic incumbent.

Senators Ask For Anti-Poll Tax And Anti-Lynch Action

March 27, 1943
The Informer

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Senators David I. Walsh, Democrat, and Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., Republican, both of Massachusetts, laid before the Senate last Wednesday two resolutions of the General Court of Massachusetts petitioning Congress to enact anti-lynching and anti-poll tax legislation.

Would Punish All

One resolution asked Congress to adopt "an adequate anti-lynching law which would enlist the powers of the Federal Government in learning the identity of, and prosecuting, those participating in lynch mobs, those responsible for inciting such mobs, and those local enforcement officers who remain lax or passive while a lynching is committed."

The other resolution asked Congress to enact "the so-called anti-poll tax bill to the end that millions of citizens of the United States residing in several of our Southern States shall have restored to them their democratic right to vote."

Both resolutions were referred to the Judiciary Committee.

March 9, 1943

Voters Urged To Block Effort To Pass On Workers

Civil Service Would be Worthless NAACP Warns

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—N. A. A. C. P. uttered this week a strong warning against a bill known as S575 and introduced by Senator McKeller of Tennessee. The bill which forces an outrageous patronage system on the American government makes civil service worthless and supports the southern revolt against the administration.

The effect of the bill's passage is the authorization of southern senators to block confirmation of the employment of any Negro in any job paying over $4,500 a year, as of June 30, 1943 especially if he is one who is not an "Uncle Tom." Such jobs could be held only after a political review of members of the senate from the states concerned.

Negro voters throughout the country have been urged to take the short time necessary to call, telegraph, or write and to mobilize intelligent opinion locally through their affiliations and through the press, for this bill will have sufficient support to pass both houses unless a real pressure is brought to bear.

Colum Ba
February 26, 1943

Negro Groups Here Endorse Marriage Bill

Sign Statement Urging Passage Of Measure Now Before Senate

Negro organizations including medical, ministerial, educational and civic groups, as well as individual Negro citizens, have sent to the South Carolina Council for the Common Good, a statement expressing hope for the passage of the marriage law amendments as a measure which they believe will help promote the general health and welfare of their racial group as well as that of all other South Carolina citizens.

Their statement reads:

"The seriousness of marriage, the non-dissolution policy of our state, and the increase of both hasty marriages and venereal diseases, brought on in part by the present abnormal war conditions, combine to argue for the marriage law now before our legislature.

Hope for Passage

"As a racial group, we have been mentioned as a serious concern by some of the opponents of the bill. But, assuredly, the constructive health and welfare measures proposed as marriage law amendments ,cannot fail to prove helpful to the general health, welfare ,and improvement of our racial group, as well as to that of all other South Carolina citizens.

"We heartily concur in the principles of the bill, and wish to add our earnest hopes for its passage to those of the many fine individuals who are urging our state's adoption of these progressive marriage law amendments."

List of Signers

The following Negro organizations signed the statement:

Palmetto Medical Association, Dr. H. G. Thompson, president; Auxiliary of the Palmetto Medical Association, Mrs. H. D. Crofts, president ;Interdenominational Alliance of Ministers, the Rev. S. S. Youngblood, president; Baptist Ministerial Union, the Rev. F. M. Young, president; the Rev. Charles H. Brown, dean of the School of Theology, Benedict College; C. A. Johnson, superintendent of Negro schools.

Booker Washington High School, J. Andrew Simmons, principal; Saxon and Howard High Schools, C. W. Madden, principal; Carver High School, E. E. Rogers, principal; Waverly Elementary School, J. H. Whiteman, principal; the Citizens Committee of South Carolina, J. L. Linton, president; The Culture Club, Mrs. V. G. Pompey, president; South Carolina Association of Negro Nurses, Mrs. H. D. Nelson, president.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Mrs. F. M. Dedmond, president; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Mrs. H. D. Nelson, president, and Good Samaritan-Waverly Hospital, Dr. E. Stanley Grannum, superintendent.

The bill has been passed by the House of Representatives and is now before the Senate.

Bill To Legalize Brutality On Buses Reported To House

MAY 1943

AUSTIN.—A bill, providing for regulating the separation and seating of Negro and white passengers in motor busses operating for hire, has been favorably reported to the House, which seems calculated to stir racial strife by making legal all of the brutalities and cruelties now being practiced upon Negroes in Texas. It also gives to the motor-bus operators the right to interpret the law, down to the smallest detail, and the right to summon officers of the law, down to the smallest detail, and the right to summon officers of the law, down to the smallest detail, and the right to summon officers of

Negro Organizations Back Pending Marriage Law Bill

Leading Negro individuals and organizations, including many of the medical, ministerial, educational and civic groups, have sent to the South Carolina Council for the Common Good the following signed statement expressing hope that the marriage law amendments bill will pass. The measure, they believe, is one which will help to promote the general health and welfare of their racial group as well as of all other South Carolina citizens:

"The seriousness of marriage, the non-dissolution policy of our state and the increase of both hasty marriages and venereal diseases brought on, in part, by present abnormal war conditions, combine to argue for the marriage law now before our legislature.

"As a racial group, we have been mentioned as a serious concern by some of the opponents of the bill. But assuredly the constructive health and welfare measures proposed as marriage law amendments cannot fail to prove helpful to the general health, welfare and improvement of our racial group, as they will to that of all other South Carolina citizens. We heartily concur in the principles of the bill and wish to add our earnest hopes for its passage to those of the many fine individuals who are urging our state's adoption of these progressive marraige law amendments."

(Signed by the following representative Negro medical, ministerial, educational and civic groups and leaders:)

Palmetto Medical association, H. G. Thompson, M. D., president.

Auxiliary of the Palmetto Medical association, D. F. Crofts, president.

Interdenominational Alliance of Ministers, the Rev. S. S. Youngblood, president.

Baptist Ministerial Union, the Rev. F. M. Young, president.

School of Theology, Benedict college, the Rev. Charles H. Brown, dean.

Columbia Branch of the National Association of College Women, A. S. Weston, president.

Superintendent of Negro schools, C. A. Johnson.

Good Samaritan-Waverly hospital, E. Stanley Grannum, M. D., superintendent.

Booker Washington high school, J. Andrew Simmons, principal.

Saxon and Howard high schools, C. W. Madden, principal.

Carver high school, E. E. Rogers, principal.

Waverly elementary schools, J. H. Whiteman, principal.

Citizens Committee of South Carolina, J. L. Linton, president.

The Culture club, V. G. Pompey, president.

South Carolina Association of Negro Nurses, H. D. Nelson, president.

Delta Sigma Theta sorority, H. D. Nelson, president.

Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, F. M. Dedmond, president.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

BILL TO CURTAIL RAZING OF NEGRO HOMES PASSED

APR 28 1943

Illinois House Votes 112-2 for War Time Curb.

BY GEORGE TAGGE.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Springfield, Ill., April 27.—The Illinois house today concurred by a vote of 112 to 2 in senate passage of a bill to prevent the razing during the war of any Chicago dwelling structure without permission of the mayor, who would be required to certify that other living quarters were available.

The bill, sponsored by Negro residents of Chicago, is aimed at halting destruction of the Mecca building, 34th and State streets. This structure, erected for the 1893 World's Fair, has 187 flats occupied by 1,500 persons.

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"These tenants have been served notices to move by April 30," said Rep. Charles J. Jenkins [R., Chicago], one of the bill's sponsors. "There is no place for them to go."

Holds Negroes Curbed.

Rep. Fred J. Smith [D., Chicago], another sponsor, declared that 200,000 Negro residents of the south side are surrounded by rulings curbing expansion of their living area and said razing of their homes must be stopped.

Rep. David I. Swanson [R., Chicago] inquired whether the bill would not prevent razing of fire traps or hazards to health. The sponsors admitted that this was the case, but Rep. Smith said:

"Laws always are circumvented—even the law against murder."

Jenkins expressed belief that the courts would uphold the bill, "or if they didn't, that it would be so long before the question would go thru the war is over, this bill won't interfere."

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Calls Bill "Vicious."

Ashcraft nevertheless called the bill "vicious" and likely to cause confusion. He said it provided un-American restraints upon property owners.

The only "No" vote besides that of Ashcraft came from William G. Burnsmier [R., Mason City]. Most of those who had expressed opposition were among the 39 members silent on roll call.

Republicans today defeated another Democratic attempt to throw out all pending state claims for recovery of money wrongfully paid out as old age assistance. The vote was 72 to 58 on a motion by Minority Leader William Vicars [D., Pontiac] to reconsider action taken last week on amendments to a bill to liberalize burial benefits.

Fight Cigaret Tax.

Democrats today launched their expected move to repeal the cigaret tax and reduce the liquor tax. The additional levies were enacted in 1941 at the time the sales tax was cut from 3 cents to 2 cents.

Representatives Edward J. McCabe [D., Chicago] and Daniel M. Flanigan [D., Chicago] introduced the bills.

"It now develops that the 'in lieu' taxes were not necessary," McCabe said. "As a consequence, a surplus expected to reach 67 million dollars by July 1 is being built up.

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"It will be argued by the administration that this surplus is necessary for post-war work and for the state to be on a cash basis. My bills would leave about 20 million as a so-called working fund."

Taxes on beer would be cut from 4 to 2 cents a gallon, on wine from 15 to 10 cents a gallon, and from 40 to 25 cents a gallon depending on alcoholic content, and on whisky from $1 to 50 cents a gallon.

Rep. Walter McAvoy [R., Chicago] brought in a bill to cut the legal small loans interest rate from 3 per cent to 1½ per cent a month on loans up to $300 and from 2½ to 1 per cent on loans up to $150.

Also introduced today was a Chicago sanitary district pegged levy bill, which would extend thru 1944 and 1945 the $6,400,000 levy now in effect.

APR 28 1943

Rep. Edward P. Saltiel [R., Chicago], sometimes called the father of the pre-marital examination law, today introduced a bill to permit examinations for Illinois marriages to be made by a physician licensed in any state, rather than only by a physician licensed in Illinois. Soldiers and sailors sometimes want to marry on a short trip home, and it was said they could save time by being examined before starting.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

A COURAGEOUS VETO.

Gov. Green faced a difficult political decision when the legislature laid before him a bill which sought to relieve a deplorable housing situation in the Negro sections of the city. The governor might have evaded responsibility by letting the bill become law in the certainty that the courts, after some delay, would invalidate it. Instead, he showed his courage by vetoing it.

The immediate impulse to passage of the bill was the proposal to raze the old Mecca apartments at 34th and State streets, which provided homes for some 1,500 persons. The measure, however, was general in its application within the city of Chicago and would have prohibited the destruction of any living quarters, no matter how unsanitary, dilapidated, or subject to fire hazards, unless the mayor of Chicago found that "substantially similar" housing was available to the residents of the properties scheduled to be torn down.

In addition to its strictly unconstitutional weaknesses, the measure was an extremely shortsighted one in that it would have defeated any attempt at slum clearance in Chicago, and thus would have made it impossible to provide better housing for those who now live in dangerous and unsanitary quarters in Negro districts and elsewhere.

MAY 22 1943

It is a notorious fact that Negro citizens of Chicago pay rents that on the average are far higher than the charges for the same kind of accommodations in other neighborhoods. What is not so generally recognized is that these rents are high because the owners of many of the properties regard renting not as a continuing business but as an extractive process, in which the property is exploited even more than the tenants. Repairs and maintenance are neglected and as years pass the dwellings are rented at lower rates to poorer tenants until the buildings eventually fall apart or are condemned as unsafe for human use. The rents are high because under this process the owner is seeking not merely to earn a return on his investment but to recover as large a part of his capital as he can before he abandons the property to vacancy and tax delinquency.

The process prevails in other blighted areas, but it is at its worst in the crowded Negro districts. Its bad effects are obvious and are accentuated, of course, by the war time ban on new construction. The best remedy in sight for this process of blight is the private limited dividend housing corporation, which would regard its property as a long term investment instead of a mine to be worked out in uneconomic fashion in a few years.

The alternative, public housing, has failed. It never served the people in the lowest income classes, who have the only possible claim to public subsidies for their housing, and as it is operated today in Chicago it is giving shelter, at the expense of government subsidies and local tax exemptions, to a group of tenants whose average incomes are probably above the average of families who pay rent to private landlords.

MAY 22 1943

So far as Negro tenants in particular are concerned, their best hope of obtaining adequate housing is the ending of discrimination against them in business and industry. If they have stable employment at decent wages landlords will find it profitable to cater to them. Needless to say, the problem far transcends any of the pet formulas and proposed solutions of the housing problem, but it is the one that must be faced if the majority of Negroes in Chicago are ever to have decent housing.

Chicago Defender
Chicago. Illinois

Missouri Kills Equal Rights Bill

MAY 15 1943

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — The committee on civil and criminal procedure of the Missouri House killed outright the equal rights bill of Edwin F. Kenswil of St. Louis, lone Negro member of the State legislature, here last Wednesday.

The measure sought to prohibit race discrimination in hotels, restaurants, theatres and public conveyances under both civil and criminal penalties. It had been held in committee, without action, since Rep. Kenswil introduced it on January 15.

MAY 15 1943

The committee, to protect legislators who were opposed to the bill and who feared the political outcome of public voting against it, withheld the bill from the house. In a closed meeting of the committee, where no record was kept of how the members voted, it was decided to report it, "do not pass."

Kenswil several times appeared before the committee urging favorable action on the bill, but on each occasion the committee sidetracked the issue. The house was well aware of the committee's purpose.

MAY 15 1943

The terms of Kenswil's bill were that any person who denied any citizen equal rights, privileges or accommodations in hotels, restaurants, theatres, and public conveyances, or who aided or incited such denial, would be liable to damages of $25 to $100, (payable to the person denied such privileges), and would be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for 60 days and a fine of $300.

52b-1943
Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

'Jim Crow' Act Repeal Asked in Md.

JAN 20 1943

Legislature Cuts Session Short in Respect to the Late Chief Justice Bond

By John F. Chandler
Associated Press Staff Writer

Annapolis, Md., Jan. 19.—The Maryland Legislature adjourned today out of respect for the late Chief Judge Carroll T. Bond after conducting a brief session in which 17 bills were introduced, among them a House measure repealing the State's "Jim Crow" Act.

Judge Bond, who was eulogized in the Senate and House as "one of the great justices of our time," died in Baltimore last night.

In the Senate, Senator E. Milton Altfeld (Democrat), Baltimore, Fourth District, said that Bond had "borne well the robes of those justices whose names are writ large in the judicial annals of our State."

Majority Floor Leader John S. White (Democrat), Prince Georges, told the House that "the people of the State have suffered an irreparable loss, and it is with great humility and sorrow that the House adjourns out of respect to one of our greatest jurists, who has contributed so much toward the judicial branch of our government."

Old Battle Recalled

The "Jim Crow" repeal bill introduced by Delegate Leon A. Rubenstein (Democrat), Baltimore, Fourth District, revived memories of the bitter battles of preceding sessions when the act was passed requiring separate cars or compartments for Negro and white passengers in trains and steamboats operating in Maryland.

Six new bills were received in the Senate, while favorable committee reports were heard on four others.

Delegate Bertram L. Boone 2d (Democrat), Baltimore, Fifth District, introduced a House bill that would amend State alcoholic beverage laws regulating sale to minors. The bill provides that no person could be convicted "if he proves by a preponderance of the evidence all of the following facts:"

That the minor falsely represented to him in writing that he was 21 years of age or over; that the minor's appearance was such that an "ordinary prudent person" would believe him to be 21 or over, and that the sale was "made in good faith in reliance upon such written representation" that the buyer was 21 or over.

A fine of not over $100 was provided for minors misrepresenting their age.

JAN 20 1943

Boone said the bill bore indorsement of Charles T. Leviness, chairman of the Baltimore City Liquor License Board, and that similar legislation was vetoed two years ago by Governor O'Conor.

Senate Gets Six Bills

The Senate, meanwhile, received six new bills, three of which were local in character and one of which duplicated a bill already offered in the lower House.

Senate President Arthur H. Brice offered a bill to fix the rate of State taxation on real estate for the next two fiscal years. The proposal was identical with an administration proposal submitted in the House of Delegates last night.

JAN 20 1943

Senator James J. Lindsay, majority floor leader, introduced two bills amending the State corporations law. One would make slight changes in the act governing consolidations and mergers, and the other would fix fees and charges for certified copies of papers recorded by the State tax commission and for their authentication by the secretary of State.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

DIXIE SOLONS VOW FIGHT ON LYNCH LAWS

JAN 30 1943

'Solid South' To Again Oppose Anti-Lynching, Poll Tax Bills

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Mississippi, site of three lynchings in 1942 and whose state courts refused to take any action against the mobbists, is still unalterably opposed to federal anti-lynching legislation as well as anti-poll tax statutes, a survey of members of the congressional delegation from that state discloses.

Blasting introduction of such bills into the new session of congress, Senator Eastland said:

"We must present a united front to the common end. I know how the people of the south feel. The professional and political advocates of social equality are in for a rude awakening. The day has passed when the Democratic or any other party can kick the south around.

"We are loyal Americans. We believe in white supremacy. The white race now rules the south and will continue to rule the south regardless of the attempts of any organization or individual to foist upon us the equality of the races. Political equality and social equality cannot be separated. One leads to the other."

JAN 30 1943

Senator Bilbo Again

Said Senator Bilbo: "Since these bills have been introduced it is evident that these crackpots will try to push this unconstitutional legislation through regardless of the war and the constitution. I have begun preparing two speeches to filibuster each of them for 60 days—they shall not pass."

Representative Winstead: "I can't understand why anyone would bring up such questions at this time. This is no time, regardless, for meddling into our rights and privileges."

Representative Colmer: "I've always consistently opposed such legislation, as the Negro problem is peculiarly a southern problem. Naturally I'll continue to oppose it. There is no likelihood of such legislation being enacted. It is mostly political football which certain members from the east, where there are heavily populated Negro sections, use for their own purposes."

JAN 30 1943

Representative McGehee: "Of course I will oppose both proposals with all the influence and power I may have. This is a most inopportune time to introduce such controversial legislation. It has a tendency to create strife among the membership, when the thought and effort of every member should be put forth to fostering legislation which will win the war shortly."

Representative Rankin: "Undoubtedly the bills will die in committee. This is no time for legislative insanity."

Representative Whitten: "Naturally we are very much against this legislation. I don't think it is a service to the nation to bring up such controversial measures at this time. I will fight them from beginning to end."

Rep. Whittington: "Lynching is fast disappearing. The states are solving the problem. Federal anti-lynch laws will both delay and hinder the complete eradication of lynching. The revival of the federal anti-poll tax issue would be most unfortunate. It would cause disunion when unity is most essential in the war effort Suffrage is for the states. Congress has no constitutional authority to interfere or to prescribe the qualifications for voting. Both freedom and the rights of the states would thus be invaded."

JAN 30 1943

"South Saved Party"

Representative Abernethy: "Anyone who would introduce measures like these is doing more to retard the progress of the war and unity of the people than any other measure that could be introduced. Evidently some of the promoters seem to be members of the Democratic party who don't appreciate the fact that southern Democrats held the party together and saved it from complete collapse a few years ago. Instead of being rewarded for saving it, they're casting stones upon our heads—which they will long regret."

New Masses
New York, N. Y.

Lynch Tactics

FEB 2 1943



THE Judiciary Committee is one of the most important in Congress. Among the many considerations under its aegis is legislation concerning labor, poll taxes, lynching. Rep. Vito Marcantonio is a man who has devoted his life to improving the lot of labor, to eliminating the poll tax, to abolishing lynch law. Ergo, reasoned the poll tax cabal, Mr. Marcantonio was certainly not a man to go on the Judiciary Committee. So this progressive legislator—elected on all three party tickets in his bailiwick—was rejected by men who slipped into Congress only because the majority in their states are robbed of the franchise through the poll tax. Thus the Bourbons defied not only leaders of the Democratic Party, like speaker Sam Rayburn who proposed Mar-

Cantonio, but also the interests of the nation.

There is more in the Marcantonio rejection than first meets the eye. As Milton Howard points out in the Worker of January 24, two groups ganged up on the New York congressman. One was the "lynch then-as usual gang" which abhors the New Yorker for his stalwart championshop of the anti-lynch and anti poll tax bills.

"The other group is a secretly pro-Nazi group bitterly opposed to the present world relationships of the United Nations against Nazi Germany and Japan." This latter is taking full advantage of the southern bloc's sectional priviliges for specifically defeatist purposes. In other words Marcantonio's rejection was engineered not only because of his anti-poll tax policies: his forthright position on behalf of the administration's total war program was also an issue. His unflinching

stand for full collaboration with the Soviet Union when the rest of Congress stampeded in an anti-Soviet direction, back in 1939, renders him anathema to those men who conspire now -- toward the annihilatron of Hitlerism and with the USSR. the subsequent cooperation of all nations, particular

Marcantonio is hell on Munichism.

There was an immediate outcry in New York and elsewhere nationally at the high-handed action of the poll-axers. Leaders of labor and minority groups hit out unreservedly on Marcantonio's behalf. As we go to press letters of protest are pouring in on Speaker Sam Rayburn. We are sure readers of New Masses will mak themselves heard too. Mr. Marcantonio himself issued a statement, following the disgraceful caucus riot from which we quote:

"I am not at all discouraged. I shall carry on the fight to win the war, to destroy fascism abroad and at home..... I have confidence in the people of America. They have always triumphed over reaction. Again in this critical hour the people will unite to destroy these domestic fascists who are subverting the victory effort and are conspiring daily to turn America into a Vichy America."

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

State-Wide Group Appear Be ore House Committee On K nsas Civil Rights Bill

FEB 26 1943

FEB 26 1943

Topeka.—A statewide delegation of citizens met in Topeka this week to urge the passage of House Bill 133, introduced by Representative W. H. Towers, of Kansas City. House Bill 133 is a measure to amend the present Civil Rights law which is inadequate to protect the civil and public rights of Kansas Negroes.

Last week, the Juridicary Committee voted the bill out without recommendations and sent it to the calender of the House. The large committee which met here and conferred with Representative Towers, appeared before Governor Andrew Schoppel, Senator Al Herrod of Kansas City, and other legislative committees.

The delegation was composed of Ministers, laymen, political and civic leaders from all over the state. Representatives from various branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and newspaper representatives from the Kansas City Call and The Plaindealer were present. In spite of the travel situation, Kansas Negroes turned out in large number to demonstrate that they want fair play and democracy practiced in Kansas.

FEB 26 1943

The outstanding that the committee left in Topeka with the "powers that be" was that their case rests with the Republican party, which now has the entire state under control. One speaker remarked, "We have stayed with the Republican party through lean and fat years, good and bad times, listened to Abraham Lincoln raised from the dead and buried again. Now if the Repuglican party stands for all that it has advocated, let them enact House Bill 133 for the protection of our rights."

Another speaker remarked, "that for many years the republicans sidetracked the issue of Negroes completing a medical course at Kansas university until former Governor Walter Huxman, a democrat, came along and said we must follow the laws of Kansas regardless of color, creed or religion." Governor Huxman opened the door so that Negroes could complete a medical course at Kansas university.

Representative Towers told the delegation that the legislature session would likely end in three or four weeks and that the Negroes could not afford to pull any punches. Indications are that plenty of pressure is being applied to members of the house and senate from white citizens who want the bill killed. So without a doubt, Representative Towers is in for a fight to the finish and he will need the support of every Negro citizen in the state of Kansas until victory is won.

The delegation appeared before Lester Hagaman, chairman of the Revision of the calender, Representative Thomas Finigan of Kansas City, and Paul R. Wunsch, speaker of the house.

Representative Towers presented Dr. A. Porter Davis, president of the Kansas City branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Rev. James A. Moore, state moderator of the Baptist churches; R. B. Brown, former president of the Kansas City NAACP and Milton Bledsoe, of the Call, who made speeches before the Legislative Committee.

FEB 26 1943

Other leaders from Kansas City were: Rev. M. J. Smith, Rec. C. A. Washington, Rev. S. M. Mitchell, Rev. Burns, Rev. McGee, Mrs. Ella Bailey, Betram Leonard, Rev. M. S. Trotter and Mrs. W. H. Towers, wife of Representative Towers.

Negro Republican Blasts GOP Betrayal

APR 13 1943

APR 13 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CLEVELAND, April 12.—Chester K. Gillespie, Republican state representative from Cleveland and well-known Negro attorney, today issued a statement branding the state leadership of his own party for the defeat of a legislative proposal to ban discrimination at Ohio State University.

Last Monday night Representative Gillespie introduced an amendment to the state school bill which would have it illegal for Ohio State University to continue to deny any of its facilities to Negroes or Jews, by adding the words "but not on the basis of race, creed or religion" to a section which empowers the school administration to fix its own policies as to basis of admission, classes, etc.

APR 13 1943

The Negro legislator, in arguing for his amendment, explained to the Assembly that its necessity arose from the fact that OSU officials deny Negroes and Jews admittance (on the basis of record, qualifications and capability) to certain classes and the Medical school, as well as the hospital.

The committee to protect legislators who were opposed to the bill and who feared the political outcome of publicly voting against it, withheld the bill from the committee's from fu-house. In a closed meeting of Republican caucus meetings as the committee, where no record the refusal of the major- was kept of how the members Bricker bloc to support the voted, it was decided to report it, "do not pass."

APR 13 1943

Kenswil several times appeared before the committee urging favorable action on the bill, but on each occasion the committee sidetracked the issue. The house was well aware of the committee's purpose.

MAY 15 1943

The term Kenswil's bill were that any person who denied any citizen equal rights, privileges or accommodations in hotels, restaurants, theaters, and public conveyances, or who aided or incited such denial, would be liable to damages of $25 to $100, (payable to the person denied such privileges), and would be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for 60 days and a fine of $300.

Mr. Gillespie Negro State L denied been Negroes have even places on the basket-ball squad be- cause of nationality. But the Taft-latives Ray of Bricker House voted to table Gilles-peau of Columpie's amendment for democracy at to disassociate the State University. ture Republican a result of the r

ASSAILS BETRAYAL

Of the 25 Democrats, all but two supported Gillespie. But of the 111 Republicans, only 34, including the six Republicans from Cleveland, supported his amendment.

This disgraceful betrayal of Negro rights by members of his own party prompted Representative Gillespie to make the following statement:

APR 13 1943

"This Legislature, controlled by my own party. . . has a sorry record so far, and is being unanimously criticized in the State of Ohio.

"I am convinced that a vast majority of the Republican members of this Legislature have made up their minds that, so far as they are concerned, the four freedoms shall not be extended to the colored people of this state."

APR 13 1943

"It is hard to believe that any intelligent American, particularly at this time, when the world is on fire, would so deprive any citizens of securing all the facilities and advantages made available by the Ohio State University, which is supported by all the taxpayers of this state."

APR 13 1943

New York Amsterdam Star-News

MAY 15 1943

Missouri Kills Equal Rights Bill

MAY 15 1943

Was Introduced By the State's Lone Negro Legislator

MAY 15 1943

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (ANP) —A bill introduced by Missouri's lone Negro legislator, Edwin F. Kenswil of St. Louis, to prohibit discrimination in hotels, restaurants, theatres and public conveyances, under both civil and criminal penalties, was killed outright Wednesday by the house committee on civil and criminal jurisprudence, which had held it without action since its presentation Jan. 15.

MAY 15 1943

52b-1943

Bill Defined As Definite Menace To Negro, Labor

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

MAR 27 1943

CHICAGO, Ill., March 25—Charging that the coalition between the Southern "cornpone" white supremacy bloc and certain Republican hirelings of the National Association of Manufacturers has created a "hate Axis" in the American political and legislative parade, International President Willard S. Townsend of the United Transport Service Employes of America, CIO, issued a warning this week, that Negroes, labor and liberals must defeat the Austin-Wadsworth Draft Labor Bill.

This bill, Mr. Townsend states, is a product of the said "hate" propagandists, who, jointly, have introduced more than 30 separate pieces of legislation designed to accomplish their Machiavellian purpose. Townsend listed the main instigators as Hoffman of Michigan, Patman of Texas, Ball of Minnesota, Hobbs of Alabama, Smith of Virginia, Andrews of New York, O'Daniels of Texas, Walter of Pennsylvania, Colmer of Mississippi, Jonkman of Michigan, and many others.

CITES BILL AS REAL MENACE

Referring to the Austin-Wadsworth Draft Labor Bill, Townsend asserted that it is "one of the most dangerous pieces of legislation possibly affecting the welfare of working people, both black and white. Under this bill you would be told by your draft board where to work, how long to work and how much your work is worth. It would create the American version of the Nazi Labor Front. Among other things, it would 'freeze' every job-discriminatory practice Negroes face today. Under this bill, the Negroes' fight for equality in employment opportunities would be completely lost."

MAKES ANALYSIS OF GROUPS

Analyzing the "hate" instincts of the two enemy forces, Mr. Townsend said the Northern Republican stooges of the National Association of Manufacturers hate President Roosevelt, labor, the New Deal, Vice President Henry A. Wallace, CIO President Philip Murray, Madam Chiang Kai-Shek, and all other forces that stand for a national or international equitable collective economy. He said the Southern cornpone white supremacy bloc hates everything, but mostly Negroes, though it also has odium for the Roosevelts, Walter White, William Pickens, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Lester B. Granger, A. Randolph, The Pittsburgh Courier, the Chicago Defender, the Baltimore Afro-American, People's Voice, and every other newspaper, organization and personality seeking to instill in Negroes the nobility and dignity of equality.

This all-consuming hatred gives the two groups a common basis for legislative co-operation, Mr. Townsend concluded.

Church Women Back School Bill

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
October 21, 1943

The Thomas-Hill bill for federal aid to education was endorsed Tuesday by 150 members of the Atlanta Council of Church Women at the second day's session of a four-day study conference.

Mrs. M. E. Tilly, secretary of Christian social relations and local church activities, southeastern jurisdiction, of the Methodist Church, who is in charge of the study, said:

"One of the many reasons of inequalities among our people is the lack of the best educational facilities and poorly paid teachers. In Georgia 30.1 per cent of the persons over 25 years of age have four years or less of formal education. Our state, along with other states of the South, cannot pay the salaries that our teachers should have, and this Thomas-Hill bill offers a solution."

The council approved a motion to send telegrams to Georgia's senators urging them to support the school-aid measure.

Georgia's allotment under provisions of the bill would be approximately 10 and a half million dollars.

All matters concerning illiterate and underprivileged people are being considered by the Council. The group has gone on record as condemning the white primary and the poll tax. "Slackers" who do not register to vote because of indifference were also denounced.

The program Wednesday morning will include an address on "The Southern Charter of Race Relations," by Dr. B. E. Mays, president of Morehouse College.

Two Committees Named to Study McCarren Bill at NAACP Meet

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Thirty leading citizens gathered at the local NAACP headquarters Tuesday night for the purpose of formulating a unified plan for action on the McCarran Bill scheduled to come up before the Senate in the near future.

Negro citizens are of the opinion that an expert piece of gerrymandering was done by the exponents of the bill. Those attending the meeting expressed their displeasure of the proposed system of zoning the town because if the bill is passed in its present form Negro voters will have a majority in but one ward in the whole District.

A three-man fact-finding committee, headed by Attorney Leon Ransom, was appointed. Working with him on the committee will be Mrs. Cogg and Dr. Edward F. Harris. Messrs. Shepherd, McPeek, and Thorne will serve as consultants.

The committee was instructed to study the bill and make recommendations at a later meeting on four specific points, namely: geographical plan; type of city government preferred; powers of government and relation to Congress, and the desirability of a national representative.

Coordinating Committee

Another committee, designated as a Coordinating Committee and charged with the responsibility of finding out other groups interested in defeating the McCarran Bill as it now stands, and what these groups are doing to bring it about. This group, headed by Mr. Perry, consists of Joseph B. Evans, Harry McAlpin, Miss Thomasine Johnson, the Rev. William H. Jernagin, George Weaver, and Rufus Byars.

These committees were instructed to report, at a meeting to be held in the near future by the group, their findings so that definite plans can be made at the hearing of the Bill.

AEA OFFICIALS WILL CONTINUE FIGHT FOR AID

Bessemer, Ala., Advertiser
October 29, 1943

MONTGOMERY, Oct. 29—"The people of Alabama are keenly disappointed by the defeat in the U. S. Senate of the bill providing federal funds for education," said W. E. Snuggs, President of the Alabama Education Association, in Montgomery recently, "but they are not discouraged. The defeat is only a temporary setback," Mr. Snuggs said. "The equity of the proposal to have the federal government equalize educational opportunities in the several states guarantees ultimate success," the school official continued.

"The people of the state are greatly indebted to the superb leadership of Senator Lister Hill as one of the co-sponsors of this bill, S. 637, in the Senate. Reports from Washington indicate that Senator Hill made one of the most memorable fights of his career and one of the most successful despite temporary defeat of the measure. Friends and opponents of the bill in Washington unite in testifying to Senator Hill's grasp of the problem and to his skillful handling of the issues in the long debate."

Racial Issue Injected

According to Mr. Snuggs, the defeat of the bill is the more to be regretted because it was brought about by the injection of the race issue by certain northern leaders who have invariably opposed the improvement of social and economic conditions in the South. In this shortsighted step these leaders were aided and abetted by certain Negro leaders, Mr. Snuggs explained. However, he pointed out that the very powerful Association for the Advancement of the Colored People opposed the amendment which killed the measure. According to reports from Washington, Walter White, Secretary of this Association, put himself on record with each Senator to the effect that the amendment did not represent the wishes of his group.

Proviso Blocks School Aid Bill

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
October 19, 1943

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—(AP)—Adoption to a broad antiracial discrimination amendment was credited Thursday with blocking Senate passage of a bill to provide $300,000,000 a year in federal grants to public schools.

The measure was sent back to the education committee by a vote of 53 to 26 after the Senate approved, 40-37, the amendment by Senator Langer (Republican, North Dakota) prohibiting discrimination in the benefits and appropriations authorized in the bill "or in state funds supplemented thereby" on account of "race, creed or color."

Senator George (Democrat, Georgia), forecasting death of the measure, declared that "nobody who had any fear of federal control of education in the states could vote for this bill as amended."

"Every intelligent Negro in the country will definitely understand you voted against his interests, because you killed this legislation," he told senators who supported the Langer amendment.

The change had been approved despite assertions by Senator Hill (Democrat, Alabama) and Thomas (Democrat, Utah) that Walter White, secretary o fthe National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, opposed it for fear that it would jeopardize enactment of the bill.

Even Senator Hill, co-sponsor of the legislation, joined in the vote to send it back to the committee.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Civil Rights Fund Bill To Senate

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—Appropriation of $21,000 [illegible] Disappointed as he is naturally [illegible] that his federal-aid-to-education bill was laid aside in spite of his gallant effort, Alabama's Lister Hill has the consolation of knowing that the nature of the counter-effort was so much the reverse of gallant that opposition has been advertised to its own less when the effort is made again. The American public is being made to understand how hatefully and dishonestly the race question was forced into the debate in order to beat the bill on something other than its own merits. This may react into more favor for the bill than ever before.

Greeneville, Tenn., News-Bulletin
October 28, 1943

STEWART SAYS LANGER DEFEATED SCHOOL BILL

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27—Senator Stewart (D., Tenn.) told the Senate Wednesday that Southern Negroes

The measure was voted out of committee unanimously and will now go to the Senate for an early reading. The bill passed the House last week by a vote of 96-3.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

realize an amendment attached to the $300,000,000 federal school aid bill had been designed to kill the proposal rather than afford educational equality.

Saewart said the amendment of Senator Langer (R., N. D.) to prohibit racial discrimination from the funds was a "sorry action" to make the bill unacceptable even to its proponents. Approval of the amendment was followed by recommital of the bill.

Shystersm in the Senate

By CARROLL KILPATRICK
The News and Observer's Washington Correspondent
Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer

The Senate has killed the Federal aid for education bill by one of the cheapest tricks—one of the most dishonest tricks—any member of that august body has engaged in in a long time. It is almost unbelievable that allegedly respectable men would play such a shoddy game of politics. It makes little difference whether the bill was good or bad; the tactics used against it were abominable and inexcusable.

Three men are primarily responsible for what happened. They are, in the order named, Senator McNary of Oregon, Senator Taft of Ohio, and Senator Langer of North Dakota. Two of them—McNary and Langer—were on record as in favor of the bill. Yet they connived to defeat it. The unctious Taft was the only one of the three Republicans who was openly opposed to it.

For nearly a week the measure had been debated on the Senate floor. The lines were closely drawn. There were some good arguments for the bill; there were some good arguments against it. The debate had been on a reasonably high level. October 25, 1943

But a counting of noses toward the end showed that it would pass if a clear-cut vote were taken. So the Republican schemers put their heads together. They proposed an amendment which would have put the Federal government directly into the management of the schools. Yet it was these same Senators who had objected to the bill on the grounds that the Federal government might take a part in the local school programs.

In other words, when they saw that their arguments did not stand up they tacked on an amendment which virtually no one could stomach. When the amendment was adopted, Senator Taft promptly moved—and this shows the complete cynicism in his whole position—that the bill be recommitted to committee for further study—in other words, that the bill be put on the shelf.

The bill is on the shelf. It may never be taken off again. Certainly it will not be taken off while the present members of the Senate are in office. If the American people want a Federal aid for education bill they had better get busy and elect a Senate that believes in such a thing. This Senate does not.

There was powerful behind-the-scenes opposition to the Thomas-Hill bill. The chief opposition came from the Catholic Church, which argued that the Federal government should not spend money on public schools without also spending money on parochial schools.

When it was seen that the bill would in all probability pass despite this powerful and effective opposition, Senators Taft and Langer offered the amendment providing no discrimination in the use of Federal or state funds on the basis of race, creed or color. Obviously the Southern Senators would not support a bill with such an amendment. It would mean that there could no longer be a separation between white and colored schools.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was opposed to the amendment. The Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools for Negroes was opposed to the amendment. Yet the Republican leaders saw an opportunity to do a little demagoguing; they will go back home and tell their Negro voters that they tried to help them get better educational opportunities. When they do that, and they will, they will be telling a lie.

Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, telegraphed Senator Langer that his proposed "anti-discrimination amendment . . . adds nothing to protection against discrimination already appearing in Sections 6f and 13c and 13d of the bill now before the Senate."

In opposing the amendment, Senator Hill of Alabama told the Senate that the "bill now provides for a fair, a just, and an equitable division so far as all minority races are concerned. A vote for the amendment would serve but one purpose; that is, to take from the Negro, and to take from all minority groups, the benefits which they would derive under the bill."

If Senator McNary, the Republican leader, had been honest in his promise that he would support the bill he would have opposed the Langer amendment. Everyone knew that the Langer amendment was designed to defeat the bill. It made it possible for Senators who opposed the bill to kill the bill without voting against the bill. They voted for the Langer amendment. Then after it was attached it was almost impossible for anyone to support the bill, so it was promptly recommitted to the committee on the motion of Senator Taft.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

"Certainly," agrees Chairman Francis R. Bridges, Jr., of the Florida Parole Commission, from Tallahassee, "if a Negro is on the Peace Commission, and one should not be unless it is a very large commission, it should be a Southern Negro." We Southerners should have two points about the Negro now, (1) that it is our own Southern affair, (2) that we must handle it with all the light and justice as well as all the realism we own. "I am doing a book on a fighting Southerner, John C. Calhoun," writes M. E. Coit, from West Newbury, Mass. "You say he was driven from nationalism to Southernism—my contention is that his struggle was to reconcile his love for the South with his loyalty to the Union, and that to his last breath he was trying to find means by which the South could retain its freedom and sovereignty and remain in the Union . . ." It seems to me that we don't contradict each other, Mr. Coit. "The stupendous ignorance of a large proportion of our industrial magnates as to the meaning of democracy scarcely needs mention," mentions Witherspoon Dodge in a letter from Jacksonville, Fla. I don't know Mr. Dodge's age but if he were as young as I am he could hope that our business men may be turning liberal and that our liberals may stop turnnig socialist.

Senate Gets School Bill

PM New York, N. Y.

Measure Would Grant $200,000,000 to States

By ELIZABETH DONAHUE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—A bill to help the States finance their schools and teachers and to give Negro children equal educational opportunities has the right-of-way in the Senate today, marking the end of a decade during which Southern members have refused to allow similar bills to come up for consideration.

The measure, sponsored by Sens. Elbert Thomas (D., Utah) and Lister Hill (D., Ala.) would authorize $200,000,000 for Federal aid to State educational systems.

Salaries

Two-thirds of the amount earmarked as emergency funds would go for public school teachers' salaries during the war. At present, teachers are averaging less than $1200 a year. One-third of the fund would be expended to reduce inequalities in educational opportunities. This aspect of the bill is recommended by the Senate Committee on Education as one which should be a permanent Federal aid program.

The program would be administered entirely by the states, which would receive the funds on condition that the present cost of their public school system not be reduced.

In apportioning funds to raise educational standards, the States would receive money from the Federal Government on the basis of the number of children between 6 and 17, as well as on the basis of a State's estimated total income.

Benefactors

Under this provision, the Southern states having the lowest income and the highest ratio of children to adults, probably would be the biggest benefactors of the Federal money.

The bill does not require the states to break down racial barriers to the extent of placing white and Negro children in the same school.

But in the District of Columbia and the 17 states where separate schools are the custom, the State will have to use the Federal funds to raise the standards of the Negro schools to the standard of the white schools. In a number of States the white schools are getting far more money than is expended for the education of Negro children, according to the Committee report.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

Sen. William Langer, of South Dakota, who killed the federal aid-to-education bill, has made trouble for school people before. He did it when he was governor of his state. Well educated himself (University of North Dakota and Columbia), he seems to rank education low, nevertheless, for is it just that he ranks the Southern states low? Hatefully low? Certainly the method he employed to defeat a bill which would have meant precious millions for Southern education was the most hateful one possible.

If it shocks him to know he behaved exactly like Georgia's Eugene Talmadge, let him stand up and be shocked. For that is the way he behaved. Like Talmadge, he raised the banner of race hate dishonestly, and for a political purpose. Like Talmadge he meddled wantonly with the educational hope and need of the South.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

THIS MORNING



by JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES

"Recently you spoke of the progressive education philosophy that the child is inherently able to select for itself the fields of learning best suited to it," writes Principal G. W. Yarbrough, of Randolph County High School in Wedowee. "You, along with others, cannot understand that a child needs training under an adult who knows that such an endowment was not his in either childhood or even in maturity." Oh, my dear Mr. Yarbrough, how can you jump on me for the very thing I have been writing my typewriter to pieces opposing. You and I are two souls with but a single thought, and yet you kick me down stairs. Do I write so poorly, or is it that you write better than you read?

* * *

The education bill may live to be fought for another day. In the meanwhile, some good may have been accomplished if the people of America are made to see how dishonestly and destructively the race question can be raised against the South.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
October 25, 1943

Negro Outwits Senators

Two of the senators, one of them a Southerner, supporting the bill to appropriate federal funds for schools (funds of the federal treasury are at this time raised by selling "war bonds") when they were struck in the abdomen by the Langer amendment prohibiting discrimination between races in the spending of the funds, plaintively said that Walter White, the colored man, was opposed to the amendment. To be sure he would be. White is a person of considerable acumen and well knows that, once the policy of appropriating from the federal treasury for schools were begun, it would be only a question of time when federal dictation of school policies in the states would be the rule. The appropriations would increase and Southern states eventually might even consent to mixed racial schools rather than lose money. The News and Courier suspects that Walter White, the colored man, is much too smart for the average senator, particularly when before the senators is the temptation to dangle a sweet-smelling appropriation under the nostrils of their constituents. As for the constituents, millions of them, many in dear old brave South Carolina, are convinced that white rabbits can be drawn out of a hat for them and that, similarly, money drawn from the federal treasury is not money that they put into it when they paid taxes or bought war bonds.

52b-1943
Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

U. S. MUST GIVE RACE JOBS IN WAR PLANTS

MAY 22 1943

May Force Lowering Color Bars In Plants Order Stuns Many

WASHINGTON, D. C. — America's Negro population was stunned this week as the full significance of the "work or fight" order issued by manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt was brought home to men between the ages of 18 and 38. Negro opinion leaned to the view that all available manpower of the colored race faced wholesale induction into the armed forces after April 1, the date set for men of draft age to get into war plants or don uniform.

MAY 22 1943

More than that, Negro leaders see the government on the spot and the Negro in the army, because the government has failed to integrate Negro workers, skilled and unskilled, into the war factories and essential services necessary to an all-out prosecution of the war. The government, they say, must either take a lead in breaking down the barriers of race prejudice in war factories against the Negro or round up Negro availables for army service on a scale not heretofore believed possible — a procedure that would greatly increase the 15 per cent Negro quota that has been set by Washington.

It is also being pointed out that the "work or fight" order, by virtue of the status of the Negro in American life, will fall most heavily on the Negro, because he forms the great mass of the nation's unskilled and menial workers. He has found employment at low wages as bell boys, boot blacks, bus boys, butlers, charmen and cleaners, gardeners, porters, elevator operators, errand boys, waiters, and dozens of classified non-deferrable occupations listed by the Selective Service Bureau of the Manpower Commission.

Furthermore, added fears are being expressed regarding what is said to be the uncertain role of the Negro in the war effort at home and abroad. It is said that at least 90 per cent of the releases issued by the office of War Information present glowing pictures of what the Negro is doing in various camps throughout the country, but they are strangely silent about what the Negro soldier is doing with a gun in his hands on the battlefield.

The interpretation of the silence of the OWI releases, some believe, is that Negroes are being used largely as task forces and labor battalions wherever they are sent. It has even been said that raw recuits are sometimes sent abroad without adequate training.

In the meantime, the "work or fight" order by the Manpower Commission is said to indicate a movement toward the drafting of women in the essential services on the home front. The name of General Enoch H. Crowder, who issued a similar order in 1919, World War 1, has come back to plague the minds of many millions of American citizens, it is said.

ASSEMBLY ORDERS RATIFIED SUNDAY SHOW-SPORT BILL

Goal for Adjournment by Saturday May Be Missed by Lawmakers

Columbia, April 13.—(AP): The senate refused today to be hurried into approval of a $255,750 deficiency appropriations bill as the general assembly headed toward sine die adjournemtn by the end of the week.

The deficiency bill carried no appropriation for "extra pay" for members of the two houses, which some sources took to indicate that the legislators were not convinced that they could complete work on the courrent session by Saturday night.

The house passed a deficiency bill last week which provided $600 "extra pay" in the form of expense money, but later it was found that the money had been bobtailed to the wrong measure.

Senator Edgar A. Brown, chairman of the senate finance committee, said the appropriation to pay the legisaltors for their work beyond the forty-day constitutional limit would be provided in an amendment.

While the senate discussed the money bill, the house voted 55 to 49 to concur in seante amendments to a bill permitting Sunday movies and sports in areas adjacent to military or naval reservations for the duration of the war and six months after.

Prohibtion Up

The measure was ordered ratified after several members of the house sought unsuccessfully to block approval.

Prohibition came up for brief mention in both the ouse and senate. A statewide prohibition bill was bobtailed to an Hory county bill providing for restrictions on beer and wine sales in the county. An objection by Representative Boyd Brown, of Fairfield, prevented immediate consideration. The measure was placed on the calendar and there appeared small likelihood that the bill would get consideration if the general assembly holds to is present course to adjourn by the end of this week.

In the senate, Senator Abrams, of Newberry, one of the authors of the senate prohibition bill, moved to continue the dry bill until the next session of the legislature. His motion carried without debate.

Increased Costs Cited

The deficiency appropriations bill was scheduled to come up for further discussion in the senate tomorrow when senators will look over the $39,778 increased appropriation for senate personal services, $36,401 for house services, $5,115 for personal services for both houses and an increase of $9,710 for the engrossing department.

New items in the senate appropriations were $450 for an assistant sergeant-at-arms, $200 for a keeper of the finance committee room, $800 for four assistant amendment clerks, $1,200 for four assistant doorkeepers and $2,400 for siv attendants in addition to the four pages whose salary was increased from $480 to $1,000.

The bill provides seven doorkeepers and assistant doorkeepers for the three senate doors.

The deficiency bill which corrects appropriations in the 1942-'43 general appropriations bill increased the amount for senate approved accounts by $27,500, house approved accounts by $22,500, joint house approved accounts by $3,500 and contractural services approved accounts by $4,000.

The pay for four operators of the automatic elevators was increased from $400 to $1,000.

Negro College to Buy Land

Among the major appropriations for departments was $10,000 for the purchase of additional farm lands for the state negro college, $42,000 to reimburse the department of public welfare for funds expended for distribution of commodities and to provide for distribution of commodities for the remainder of the 1942-'43 fiscal year; $14,226 for the joint committee on printing, $9,900 to supplement salaries for commissioners of the state unemployment compensation commission for the fiscal years 1941-'42 and 1942-'43, and $10,000 for the civil contingent fund.

The bill also carried a proviso to permit the state penitentiary to spend $18,500 to acquire additional farm lands. The money would be paid out of current appropriations for the penitentiary.

A special account also was set up for the workmen's compensation tax. The bill said that "any existing appropriation for the support of the South Carolina industrial commission, and all appropriations hereafter made therefor shall be paid from the general fund of the state, but an amount sufficient to cover all such appropriations shall, as soon as such appropriations become effective, be transferred from the workmen's compensation fund to the general fund" to pay the appropriations.

The preparedness-ofr-peace commission was given a $50,000 allocation to continue its work of planning postwar economy for the state.

Tax Distribution Changed

The bill also contained a provision authorizing the treasurer to distribute 10 per cent of the state income taxes collected during the year 1943 to each county. The genral appropriations bill now before the governor for his signature carries a similar provision but the deficiency bill would make the income tax rebate effective with January 1, 1943.

In addition to the state appropriations bill, the assembly ratified acts to:

Establish a children's court in Spartanburg county;

Authorized for the school year 1943-44 the extension without readvertisement or rebidding of existing transportation contracts in school district in Charleston county.

Provide for the formation and management of a country forest fire control organization and provide for care and management of forests in Florence county:

Require enrichment of degerminated hominy grits and degerminated corn by addition of vitamins and minerals; and

Create additional magistrates for Charleston county and define the areas of their jurisdiction.

Vote on Movie Bill

Columbia, April 13.—(AP): The 55 to 49 roll call vote by which the house passed today the Sunday amusement (movie) bill, after refusing, 54 to 50, to indefinitely postpone the measure:

For passage (55): Speaker Blatt and Representatives Steve Anderson, Ashley, Boyd Brown, Busbee, Champion, Clinkscales, Cobb, Colcock, Graig, George Davis, Troy Davis, Day, Doughton, Ellis, Fagg, Finklea, Fort, Graham, Charles Green, W. P. Greene, Greever, Harley, Hiers, Holland, Holleman, M. B. Huggins, Knox, Laney, Legge, Lesesne, J. Woodrow Lewis Lindsay, Lofton, J. Robert Martin, Mimms, Morrison, Nunnery, Palmer, E. V. Perry, G. M. Perry, Rabon, Rosen, Senseney, Talbert, Claud Taylor, Pou Taylor, Thomas, Timmons, Tuten, Walker, Wallace, Wheeler, Winter.

Against passage (49): Representatives Adams, Allen, Benjamin, Blackmon, Bradford, J. Hertz Brown, Byrd, Chick, Clyburn, Cox, Cuttino, Derrick, Ellison, Gaines, Gaston, Gregory, Gore, Gresham, E. V. Harrelson, Hawkins, Hendrix, Holman, C. D. Huggins, Hydrick, Josey, Kay, Keels, Lawson, A. Marvin Lewis, Littlejohn, Long, Walter Martin, McMeekin, Mellette, Mills, Mitchum, Rice, Rowell, Salley, Scott, Sherard, Sloan, W. W. Smoak, Stroup, Sullivan, Usher, Verner, Weeks, Wolfe.

C. E. GREGORY

Amendments Affecting Armed Forces

CONTROVERSY has arisen in Georgia over the benefits.

When this amendment was passed by the two proposed amendments to the State Constitution affecting the present and future welfare of men in the armed forces.

One of these amendments—No. 8—provides that all civil service bodies in Georgia give equal preferences to veterans of all wars as provided by federal civil laws.

The terms of this amendment apply to the State, where a merit system is in use in several departments that are in part supported with federal funds, and to counties and municipalities having civil service status for employes.

Most existing civil service systems in the state have some form of preference for honorably discharged veterans, and the intent of this amendment is to make those preferences uniform, as well as to assure veterans of the present and past wars of participation

Senator Herschel Lovett, of Dublin, brought this interpretation to the attention of the Senate, and the passage of the measure was immediately reconsidered. After further study, however, the lawmakers decided that the race issue was not involved in the amendment, except as a sort of lastion technical grounds," comments the Georgia Committee for Good Government.

This amendment to the Georgia Constitution was sponsored by a group of lawyers, after the Georgia Supreme Court ruled that a white nonveteran preference over a Negro nonveteran in jobs where Negroes are regularly employed and for which they are qualified." says Governor Arnall. "The contention that it will admit Negro veterans to city, county or state jobs that Negroes never have held before, is just ridiculous."

The purpose of the amendment is to give veteran the advantage of from two to five points in a competitive examination, if the veteran has the same qualifications as a nonveteran taking the same examination.

The other amendment affecting the armed forces is No. 14. It provides that any person who has been a resident of any United States Army post or military reservation within Georgia for one year may bring an action for divorce in any county adjacent to said Army post or military reservation.

After "This amendment clarifies the status of soldiers stationed in Georgia, who otherwise would be deprived of access to the courts of last resort on the Georgia Constitution," comments the Georgia Committee for Good Government.

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After "This amendment clarifies the status of soldiers stationed in Georgia, who otherwise would be deprived of access to the courts of last resort on technical grounds

give an Army officer the jurisdictional right to sue his wife back home for a divorce in the courts. Several similar cases have come up from Georgia Army posts, and been sent back to the lower courts.

This is the amendment the writer is "most unfondest of" among the 28 to be submitted to the voters of Georgia on August 3.

It will enable both officers and men in the armed forces to sue the wives they left behind them for divorces in remote Georgia counties, giving notice by publication in a small county weekly the wives will never see, and possibly getting their first decrees and final divorces before the wives even know that the suits are pending.

Divorce suits, especially those involving the custody of children, ought to be fought out in the communities in which the parties have lived and are known, and before jurors who have some chance to know which parent is better fitted to bring up the children in the way they should go.

AKA Lobby Takes Lead In Campaign

Atlanta Ga. Daily World

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) —The National Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority scored another victory this week when they were able to get an anti-discrimination amendment in the Nurses Training Bill.

The amendment was introduced Monday, June 4, by Senator Warren Barbour, Republican Senator of New Jersey. So thorough had been the canvas of the Senate by Mrs. Thomasina Walker Johnson, able lobbyist of the Council on Public Affairs, that the amendment, went through without a dissenting vote.

The bill had previously passed the House of Representatives without the necessary amendments and when the amendments were added in the Senate, there was much apprehension lest the House refuse to accept the amendments of the Senate.

Mrs. Johnson then began a campaign to have the House accept the amendments. The job that she did there was so effective that conferees were not even appointed and the amendments accepted in full.

The amendment reads that in the Nurses Training Act, "That there shall be no discrimination in the administration of the benefits and appropriations made under the respective provisions of this act, on account of race, creed or color."

The National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, under the leadership of Mrs. Mabel K. Staupers, supported the amendments.

PROTEST S. C. WORK FIGHT ULTIMATUM

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Leaders See State Law Directed Principally Against Negroes

JUL 1943

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(ANP) —Negro leaders were quick to reply to an explanation of the "work or fight" bill sponsored by Gov. Olin D. Johnston which appeared in Columbia's daily newspapers this week.

This explanation from the governor tipped off the law: "the work or fight act, passed by the legislature, was the outgrowth of complaints....made by many citizens that a number of colored people and a few white people were refusing to work because some member of the family was receiving a portion of the pay of a soldier...."

It was revealed that the act was an 11th hour accomplishment of the governor's request.

JUL 10 1943

Leaders said that emphasis was placed on Negroes in the statement, and that the campaign had been conducted mainly against Negroes. Pointing to the arrest of two colored women in Columbia last week because they had quit domestic jobs, one said: "The attempt is to force our women into the domestic roles, thereby releasing white women from household duties to do work at good pay, out of which colored women would be paid two or three dollars weekly."

James M. Hinton, president of the S. C. state NAACP, said that a "test case" should and probably would be made shortly. He said he had many reports of unnecessary arrests and abuses because of the "work or fight" law and particularly because of the "work or jail" law being pushed by city police.

JUL 10 1943

Many Arrests

In the meantime, 29 persons, 26 of them Negroes, were arrested on the week-end and 24 fined from $2.50 to $10 for "loafing and loitering."

It was disclosed that two men who work long hours at the Columbia Army Air base, who because of the long hours work only every other day, were summarily jailed by officers, though they displayed working cards and explained their working terms. The men, it was reported, were told while being arrested: "You ought to quit that job and get one for seven days like I have."

An investigation into current reports that Negro housewives are being told by unidentified persons to get a job somewhere or be jailed or put on the farm, was launched this week. Near panic is reported in certain sections of Columbia.

James Waiters, his uncle Henry Waiters reported, sat in a cafe with his dinner a week ago. He had just gotten back in town from a long distance hauling trip. An officer entered, quizzed him then made him leave his meal while he carried him out to see if the employer really worked him.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Bill in House Would Outlaw White Primary

WASHINGTON

A bill designed to protect the rights of all citizens in all elections in which Federal officials are nominated or chosen for public office was introduced in the House Tuesday by Representative Louis E. Miller (R., Mo.).

While the sole purpose of the proposed legislation is to secure to the electorate the honest and lawful conduct of Federal elections, it nevertheless would make illegal certain practices which result in the effective disfranchisement of colored persons.

Hits White Primary

One of the devices it would strike down is the lily-white primary, in so far as the selection of United States Senators, Representatives and Presidential and Vice Presidential electors is concerned.

JUN 17 1943

Under its terms, it would be an offense for any person by force, bribery, threat, or any such other means to prevent or obstruct a voter from voting or from qualifying him to vote for these officials in any primary or general election.

It also would be made an offense for any election official to receive an illegal vote or to refuse a legal one. A consipracy of two or more persons to violate the act is further denounced as an offense.

The punishment provided is a fine of not more than $5,000 or imprisonment for not more than ten years, or both. The measure was drafted by a committee of the Criminal Law Council of the American Bar Association.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Ask N. Y. Act To Outlaw Color Bars

MAR 13 1943

ALBANY, N. Y. — (ANP) — The legislature Friday had received four anti-discrimination bills to break down race barriers in restaurants, real estate, insurance companies, and firms affected with a public interest.

A bill by Assemblyman Burrows, Tammany district leader in Harlem, would suspend or revoke the licenses of restaurants or places of entertainment that denied equal facilities to all persons and another outlaws restrictive covenants in real estate conveyances, mortgages or leases.

MAR 13 1943

A measure by Assemblyman Flynn (D, Manhattan) would prohibit inquiries as to the race, color or creed of applicants for employment by firms operating in the interest of the public.

Another bill by Assemblyman Schwartz (D, Brooklyn) would end the discrimination in employment by insurance companies or agencies and impose fines of $100 to $500 and prison terms of 30 to 90 days for violations. Persons affected could recover damages of $100 to $500.

THIS MORNING



by JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES
Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
October 16, 1943

Without education we lack the taste to demand, the talent to get, and the character to keep, a better standard of living.

* * *

Senate Bill 637 is up this week. That is the Hill-Thomas federal-aid-to-education bill "to assist the states in more adequate financing of their systems of public education during emergency, and in reducing the inequalities of educational opportunities through public elementary and secondary schools." No Southerner can argue in right mind against the South's need of what this bill offers. It amounts to from $5,000,000 to $18,000,000 for each Southern state. There is nothing the South needs so much. With education still the final answer to its problems and predicate to its opportunities, with more children to educate and less money to do it with than any other region, with educational expenditures per child five times as big in New York as Mississippi, with teacher pay averaging as low as $559 in parts of the South against $2,604 in parts of the North, with even the comparative little we are able to spend in the South representing two or three times as great an effort as elsewhere in terms of economic ability to do the spending—the need is bitter and pressing beyond dispute.

* * *

Southern doubts about this bill have to do with two matters. First, states' rights, whether federal aid may not result in some manner of federal control and interference. Second (and related), the question of a possible dislocation of Southern race relationships and balances.

* * *

What does the bill provide on these? On states' rights, the provisions are specific, plain, and, to my mind, satisfactory. "No department, agency, or officer of the United States," declares Section One, "shall exercise any supervision or control over any school or state educational agency with respect to which any funds are expended pursuant to this act, nor shall any term or condition of any agreement under this act relating to any contribution made under this act to or on behalf of any school or state educational agency authorize any agency or officer of the United States to control the administration, personnel, curriculum, instruction, methods of instruction, or materials of instruction . . ."

* * *

If this leaves anything out, I can't think of it. Given the iron-clad provision against federal interfering, and the vigilance which will always be liberty's price for states as well as individuals, I see no threat to our states here. I can see money without meddling.

* * *

On race relations Section Six provides that "in states where separate public schools are maintained for separate races" there must be "a just and equitable apportionment" and this "without reduction of the proportion of state and local moneys expended for educational purposes." Negroes must share in the federal funds in proportion to their population in each state. How many of us object to this? Not many, I hope. Even with an equal proportion of this federal money, Negro education would still be considerably short of white in the South. And it is to the interests of the South now to have better-educated Negroes just as it is to the interests of the United States to have better educated Southerners.

* * *

The big thing is that the bill provides an educational bonus for the South as compared with wealthier regions. A large part of the money is to be distributed not on the basis of relative school population but of relative economic condition as indicated by federal income tax payments. That means the South will get more than other regions.

* * *

I am for states' rights and against federal interferen in Association of Commerce in an Southern race relations. But I impressive plea the other day, the am for this Senate Bill 637. too. measure is not to be compared

It is the biggest opportunity the South has had in a long time, di- rected at the South's biggest need, containing the South's promise for years to come. As my friend Dr. Joseph E. Gibson, of Louisiana's State Department of Education, told the New Orleans

"with WPA, NYA, CCC or other called 'boondoggling' enterprises of the federal government. biggest Educators have opposed the establishment of a federal system of education parallel- ing our state schools systems such as was threatened by the CCC and the NYA."

52b-1943
Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

THE NEW CONGRESS

As the 78th session of Congress convenes, the nation is at war. Many new faces are making their appearance in its somber halls for the first time. They will be faced with momentous and pressing problems vitally affecting the course of the struggle. Whether it is to be long and drawn out, sapping the country's vitality or a quick drive to victory depends in part on their decisions.

Whatever their political affiliations, be they Democrat or Republican, these new congressmen can rest assured that every American wants victory. And a majority of the people desire a victory which incorporates the principles of the Atlantic Charter envisioning a better world for all mankind. JAN 9 - 1943

The people of the nation are in no mood to tolerate political tactics which impede the war effort. For they realize that with every extra hour of needless fighting more American boys both black and white bite the dust as they die. They are not interested in party politics, but in preserving the United States and the democratic principles for which it stands. It is important that each national legislator, regardless of the party label under which he was elected, realize this important fact and know that his primary mandate from the electorate is to support war legislation necessary for the victory program.

Certain of the problems that will face the new Congress directly affect Negroes. The poll-tax and anti-lynching are among them. They are also war issues. Lynchings and denial of the right to vote certainly lower the morale of citizens who live in fear of the former and are affected by the latter. Congress can no longer hesitate to pass legislation to correct these evils if it wants black Americans to feel they have a stake worth fighting for. JAN 9 - 1943

How will Congress vote? Will it impede the administration's war effort by not cooperating? Will it fritter away its time in filibusters instead of legislating against un-American practices which now exist? Or will it forget politics, and by its decisions give purpose and meaning to a war which is requiring tremendous sacrifices on the part of all the people of the nation?

With the new year there is a new Congress. The path it charts will affect the destiny of the nation.

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

SAME BATTLE DUE IN CONGRESS

Jan. 7, 1943

The seventy-eighth Congress convened Wednesday. Among the first bills introduced were the anti-poll tax and the anti-lynching measures. The former passed the house during the last season but ran into a stormy filibuster led by southern Democrats which prevented a vote on the bill on its merits. Similar fates have been met by the anti-lynching bill at previous sessions.

Undoubtedly, there will be no trouble over either of these measures in the house. The difficulty will come in the senate where the rule of unlimited debate can be used to stop any bill.

There is little doubt that if either or both of these measures reached the parliamentary stage, they would pass by good majorities in the senate. The difficulty arises because many of the senators who favor the measures are opposed to cloture rule or and any measure which they feel violates states rights. This, they argue, is particulary true in the case of those two bills.

Many outstanding lawyers have questioned the constitutionality of the anti-lynching bill; equally many have upheld it. However, it is perfectly evident that some states either refuse or cannot give protection to its citizens or secure for them justice under the law. Surely if a state cannot protect its citizens, then the federal government should see that it is done.

It might be well to remember that prior to the depression, the matter of relief was dealt with purely as a state problem. But many of the states get into financial difficulty themselves; some were not able to feed, clothe and house their citizens. The federal government stepped in and did so. And senators from some of those states oppose to anti-lynching measure most.

Iowa senators split on the cloture bill vote in the last session. Herring was for the rule, Gillett against. Since Senator Herring has been replaced by Senator-elect Wilson who has promised to support the cloture rule We have never believed that the explanation of Senator Gillett's vote made sense.

The fact remains that unless we can get enough senators to favor the cloture rule, these measures will never come to a vote in the senate. That is where our job is now.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Poll Tax, Lynch Bills, May Cause House Split

JAN 16 1943

By E. W. BAKER
(Washington Correspondent)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14—Despite the fate of such legislation in the last Congress, and notwithstanding the belligerent attitude of recalcitrant Southern Congressmen, lo and behold! when more than 150 bills were dumped into the House hopper as Congress convened on January 6, among them were to be found the old controversial anti-lynching and anti-poll tax proposals.

THREE BILLS INTRODUCED JAN 16 1943

Though no threats have been made of an outright bolt by Southerners from voting ranks, there has been talk of their supporting Republicans in opposing New Deal legislation, if Northern Democrats join Republicans in supporting legislation aimed at the South.

Anti-lynch proposals were introduced by: Representatives Thomas Ford, Democrat of California; Hamilton Fish, Republican of New York, and Joseph A. Gavagan, Democrat of New York.

NEGRO AID TO RUML URGED

"N.Y. Times"

Tax Plan Endorsed at Capital Meeting—Dies Also Backed

3/8/43 March 8, '43

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, March 7—Resolutions urging Negroes to support the Ruml pay-as-you-go income tax plan, the Dies committee and the Tolan Defense Migration Committee were adopted here today at a joint meeting of the National Negro Council and the United Government Employes.

Pleas were also voted for an immediate Congressional investigation of the Department of Justice's anti-trust suit against The Associated Press, amendment of the Federal pay increase legislation to provide penalties for union refusal to admit Negroes to membership and continued lend-lease appropriations.

The meeting protested a "reign of terror" in South Carolina, charging that the Rev. E. H. Bushey and his family were driven by a "mob" from their farm in Edgefield County.

Columbia, S. C. State
February 16, 1943

Money Bill Now in Hands Of Upper House

The senate will begin consideration of the largest appropriation bill proposed in state history today when it receives a $17,024,747 measure passed by the house last week.

Past procedures of the upper chamber indicated the bill would be immediately referred to the finance committee after a cursory floor review. The finance committee has generally reported out recommendations for a much higher total than the house appropriates, effective in sending the general appropriations to a free conference committee.

Two relatively drastic changes were sought by the house when it eliminated all appropriation for the girls' industrial school, effectively abolishing that institution, and reduced the money for the industrial commission to pay three, rather than five, commissioners.

A full calendar will greet house members as the legislature opens its sixth week, for the lower body passed over most bills last week in its rapid consideration of the money bill.

Principal among bills slated for consideration were measures to wipe Democratic primary election laws off the statute books, a move proponents said was designed to prevent infiltration of party ranks by Negroes.

Also looming as a measure fated for heated debate was a bill to require a three-day waiting period and health examinations for marriage applicants, reported favorably by the house medical affairs committee.

Insurance for the state's 6,000 home guardsmen by placing them under provisions of the workmen's compensation laws was also on today's calendar, apparently headed for approval.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Try Again To Ban Jim Crow in D. C.

JAN 31 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 28—(ANP)—Once again a bill to prohibit discrimination because of color, race or creed in places of public accommodations entertainment or amusement was introduced in Congress Monday. This time, Sen. Warren Barbour, Republican of New Jers offered a bill which would permit a person aggrieved to collect $100 to $500 in a civil action in Municipal court. JAN 31 1943

The person accused of discrimination also could be tried for a misdemeanor and if convicted, penalized by a fine of $10 to $100 or imprisonment for from 10 to 100 days.

A similar bill was introduced in the last Congress but was not acted on. Mr. Barbour is sincere in his desire to see this bill passed and says he will work diligently to that end.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Term Poll Tax And Lynch Bills As Treasonable

JAN 30 1943

WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 28—"Practically treason" was the term used by members of the congressional delegation from Mississippi and Louisiana, this week, as they denounced the introduction of anti-lynching and anti-poll tax bills in Congress.

Democratic Senator Eastman from Mississippi let it be known to his fellow legislators in no uncertain terms that he believed "political and social equality cannot be separated." "One leads to the other," roared the poll tax Senator.

"WE BELIEVE IN WHITE SUPREMACY"

Eastman further stated in regard to the South: "We are loyal Americans. We believe in white supremacy. The white race now rules the South, and will continue to rule the South, regardless of the attempts of any organization or individual to foist upon us the equality of the races."

The other Senator from Mississippi, Mr. Bilbo, had this to say: "I have begun preparing two speeches to filibuster each of them for 60 days—they shall not pass."

At this point in the U.S. Senate chambers Mr. Ellender of Louisiana continued the tirade on the bills. Said Ellender: "I'm unalterably opposed to both measures, and if it takes a 'Verdun' to keep them from becoming law, I'll be in the trenches."

Pertinent comments from other members of the Louisiana delegation follow:

JAN 30 1943

"LET THE STATES SETTLE THEIR OWN PROBLEMS"

Representative Hebert: "I am a firm believer in State's rights" and there is no reason why I should change my opinion now. I have said before and I repeat now, let the South settle it's own problems without interference from beyond the Mason-Dixon line."

Representative Maloney: "We believe that the poll tax is unnecessary and in our State we have repealed the law . . but we do believe in State's rights' and we think matters of this kind primarily belong in the States. As for the anti-lynching proposal—we don't believe this is any time for that sort of thing."

Representative Domengeaux: "This is another attempt to destroy white supremacy in the South."

JAN 30 1943

Representative Brooks: "I have always fought attempts by certain northern Congressmen to impose their racial views upon the South. The anti-lynch and anti-poll tax bills are merely a part of these attempts to interfere in the purely domestic affairs of the States."

Representative McKenzie: "Congress disposed of the anti-poll tax bill about a month ago. I can't see why anyone would take advantage of the war and these times to introduce such a bill, which is only one of controversy."

Representative Morrison: "It looks as though they're using this Congress as an excuse because of the war to pass legislation which will be detrimental to the people as a whole and to State's rights."

"There never has been a day and there never will be a day when the Negroes in Louisiana will be equal to the whites. I plan vigorous opposition to both bills."

Representative Larcade: "I will stay with our Southern Congressman and Senators to continue the fight to kill this legislation. It is ill-advised and unnecessary, especially at this time."

Representative Rankin: "Undoubtably the bills will die in committee. This is no time for legislative insanity."

BATTLE OF BUDGETS AWAITED IN ARKANSAS

Appropriation Bills Slated For Action In Assembly

ECONOMY BLOC PREPARES

From The Commercial Appeal
Little Rock Bureau

LITTLE ROCK, Feb. 13.—Arkansas' battle of budgets will be given a full dress rehearsal next week as major appropriation bills come before the 54th General Assembly for final action. It is expected to be a free-for-all between Administration leaders and the economy bloc and independents.

A rebellious Senate has already shown its power and desire to slash appropriations and the House hasn't had an opportunity to pass on an appropriation bill, but indications Saturday were that cuts in the Senate might be restored in some instances. If such a move is made, night sessions were predicted.

Investigators To Report

Fights on repeal of the liquor laws, new divorces and marriage laws along with reports on the investigations of political activities at the University of Arkansas and the Health Department's Bureau of Vital Statistics are also scheduled.

The Senate economy bloc is devoting the week-end recess to writing reducing amendments to the many bills to come up Monday and Tuesday.

many legislators are asking incalled attention to the large number of local bills to increase salaries of employes in the counties, accompanying the effort to cut state salaries.

Many elgislators are asking increases in salaries for county, district and school employes.

Raises have been asked for employes in Sebastian, Little River, Mississippi, Craighead, Jefferson, Fulton, Saline, Garland, and Lawrence Counties. Senator Hendrix Rowell of Jefferson and the representatives of Jefferson County have asked for many increases because of the county's growing population. Senator Ernest Maner is seeking a $270 annual increase for all clerks in the county school offices and the teachers have the approval of the Senate on an average $24 a year increase.

Liquor Bill Due Tuesday

Representative E. A. Leasure said that he expects his liquor bill to come up for final action Tuesday. Another battle looms when the County Judges' 5 per cent turnback bill hits the Senate. It was defeated once in the House, but Representative James C. Hale of Crittenden in a surprise move secured its passage later.

On one point Administration leaders were successful during the week. With the help of Senator T. K. Lovett of Star City, the Refunding Board was abolished and its duties transferred. He engineered the move in the Senate, which provides for the establishment of the Highway Reserve Fund, when the Highway cushion funds reaches $3,500,000.

One of the shortest but none-the-less hard fought tilts came in the Senate over a bill which would have given members of the armed forces the right to vote regardless of age. Legislators feared a stampede of negro votes to the polls in Democratic primaries and it was quickly defeated.

A number of important bills found their way to Governor Adkins desk during the week. One was a bill outlawing the sale of wines and beer on Sunday and the other prohibits the sale or long term leasing of land to Japanese. Governor Adkins will sign both, he said.

Seed Control Enacted

Senator C. B. Ragsdale of Stuttgart sent through the Senate, House and on to the State's Law books a bill to prevent misrepresentation and fraud in the sale, transportation and distribution of seed for planting purposes. This will protect farmers and produce revenue as it calls for inspection by the State Plant Board.

Senator John W. Cloer of Springdale urged that the attorney general's office handle all legal matters for the state. His bill would eliminate special attorneys in the various state departments. Senator O. E. Jones, newspaper publisher at Batesville, asked in a bill that improvement districts pay damages to property caused by making street improvements. Cities and municipalities are now liable.

Seeking to give the property owners of the state some relief, Senator Leonard T. Barnes of Hamburg introduced a bill placing a ceiling on the amounts that departments can receive from existing revenues. Monies above that ceiling would be placed in a Property Tax Reduction Fund.

A number of bills affecting lands and titles were introduced. One would prohibit the state from retaining gas and mineral rights to tax forfeited lands sold by the state. Under present laws it retains a royalty in the minerals and gas. The Land Use Committee is opposed to the change. Another would give a clear title to any land after 25 years of possession.

A bill was approved by the Senate permitting a worker to assign future workmen's compensation claims for rent, food and drugs. Members of the armed forces came in for their share of legislation. If present bills are enacted, they will not have to pay state income taxes and will be permitted to register their discharges from the armed forces free of charge.

More than 600 bills have been presented in both houses and Governor Adkins has signed about 50.

Guardian
Boston, Mass

South Would Kill Civil Service

MAR 12 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. — A bill known as S575 introduced by Senator McKeller of Tennessee will force an outrageous patronage system on the American government and make civil service worthless, NAACP officials declared in a statement to the press this week.

The proposed legislation is linked with the southern revolt against the administration. The effect of the bill's passage is the authorization of the southern senators to block confirmation of the em-

ployment of any colored in any job paying over $4,500 a year, as of June 30, 1943 especially if he is one who is not an "Uncle Tom." Such jobs could be held only after a political review of members of the senate from the states concerned.

Colord voters throughout the country are urged to take the short time necessary to call, telegraph, or write and to mobilize intelligent opinion locally through their affiliations and through the press. This bill will have sufficient support to pass both houses unless real pressure is brought to bear, the NAACP statement warned.

Missouri Civil Rights Bill Killed By House Committee

MAR 15 1943

Pittsburgh Courier

ST. LOUIS, May 13—Last Wednesday night saw the death of Edwin Kenswil's bill prohibiting race discrimination in Missouri's hotels, restaurants, theatres and public conveyances, under both civil and criminal penalties. The bill had been held by the House Committee on Civil and Criminal Procedure without action since its introduction on January 15 by Mr. Kenswil of St. Louis, only Negro member of the Missouri legislature.

In holding the bill from the House the committee had been meeting legislators who were opposed to the bill and who feared the political consequences of voting against it publicly. The decision against the bill was reached in the secrecy of a closed meeting of the committee where no record was kept of how the members voted.

BILL SIDETRACKED

MAY 15 1943

TO EQUALIZE TEACHERS' PAY

ASK U. S. FUND

of Alabama, and Elbert D. Thomas, Democrat of Utah, would authorize allocation of $200,000,000 a year annual fund of $100,000,000 to states on a school-attendance basis during the war for payment of Federal aid to equalize teachers' salaries and strengthen the poorer school systems. The bill, offered by Senators Lister Hill, Democrat

WASHINGTON, June 17 — A proposal came with the application to states on the basis of financial need to equal-of increased teachers' salaries and other unusual expenses.

The proposal c
proval of legisla
$300,000,000 of Fe
cation annually.
by Senators List

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

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Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
JAN 30 1943

BEHIND MARCANTONIO'S REBUFF

As a reward for the support given the New Deal in the last Congressional election, the Democratic Party sought to reward the American Labor Party by giving its only representative in the House a seat on the powerful and conservative Judiciary Committee, long headed by the reactionary Hatton Sumners of Texas.

When legislation is introduced it goes to the Judiciary Committee for consideration, and if that body disapproves of it or refuses to report upon it, it is necessary to get over two hundred representatives to sign a petition for its release.

This usually happens in the case of anti-poll tax, anti-lynching or any other legislation designed to help the poor and disadvantaged, including wages and hours, equal rights for women, birth control, etc.

Mr. Marcantonio was, and is, an advocate of anti-po tax, anti-lynching and anti-exploitation legislation and i therefore regarded as a menace by the conservative politicians who legislate in Washington for American plutocracy.

JAN 30 1943

Had Mr. Marcantonio been made a member of this potent committee, he would have caused all kinds of "trouble" by insisting upon protecting human rights instead of property rights. Worse, he might have introduced "Red" ideas, and the prospect filled the Plunderbund with horror.

But there was more behind Marcantonio's rebuff than the animus of reactionary forces toward him and what he stood for.

Actually this was a revolt of the South against the progressive elements in the New Deal which was inevitable when the November defeat of the Democrats enhanced the power and prestige of the poll-taxed, terror-ridden South: i.e., the political and business oligarchy which runs the South.

It was also a rebuff of organized labor which had hoped through Marcantonio's membership on the Judiciary Committee to stem the forthcoming tide of anti-labor legislation.

It was a warning to the New Deal liberals that the South would stand for no more favors to "Negro-lovers" nor any more interference with Southern customs such as disfranchisement, lynching, discrimination, segregation and terrorism, although the New Deal has actually done little about any of these things.

Feeling its new strength, the Southern Bloc has compelled the granting of new and greater representation on the Steering Committee to assure Southern control of House policy making until 1944.

The Administration is helpless because it must have the Southern votes in order to retain its narrow margin, so any inclination to do anything special for the Negro is "out" for the duration because the most reactionary elements in the South will have to approve before it can be done.

The brushing off of Marcantonio means that the forces against which Negroes have been battling for generations actually have greater power in Administration counsels than ever before since 1861; and a further ominous sign is the apparent willingness of the Republicans to form a coalition with the reactionary Southern politicians to oust the New Deal entirely in 1944.

The only effective opposition to this unsavory set-up must come from organized labor which hitherto has shown disappointing political immaturity.

JAN 30 1943

If Labor does see the light in time and either throws its full power behind the American Labor Party or establishes another Labor Party, the Negro's only hope will be to give it his complete support.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

Lawyer Of Wall Street Seeks To Bring On Slavery

MAR 12 1943

"Old Guard" Republicans Take Lead In Effort To Set Aside 13th Amendment To Constitution Of United States; Liberals Oppose Measure

CHICAGO, Ill., (Special)—The determined effort of a Wall Street lawyer, with the aid of "Old Guard" members of the U. S. Senate and House of Representatives to pass a Federal law to draft men and women for war work, and force them to work at whatever jobs they are told to take, is arousing nation-wide resentment.

MAR

In the effort to draft working people, it is noted that reactionary interests are far out in front of President Roosevelt and his administration in advocacy of so harsh a measure. These interests, likewise were out in front of the Administration in advocacy of drafting soldiers and were seeking to get this nation in a foreign war, long before there was any provocation of it from America's enemies.

It is known that Wall Street interests are more concerned about salvaging investments in Europe than they are in the "Four Freedoms" advocated by the President. They are more interested in the perpetuation of imperialism than in the broad Social Security program the President is advocating as a post-war measure.

A draft of labor is eagerly desired, it is noted also, by Southern representatives in Congress who are there by virtue of the operation of the poll tax and other laws which disfranchise the masses of citizens. These Congressmen see a fat chance to freeze Negro workers on farms at starvation wages and a chance to prevent many who have never enjoyed a normal standard of living from going into industries where they can make some of the "big money" now being paid workers.

MAR 12 1943

But it happens that drafting people to work is a plain violation of the Constitution of the United States and of the 13th Amendment thereof. While Negro Americans are doing their utmost to prevent the passage of a "draft labor" bill, it is believed that white liberals and those newspapers which are not controlled by Wall Street interests will be the forces which may defeat this cruel effort to enslave working people.

The most powerful voice heard in opposition to the draft of labor and in pointing out that it would violate the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, is the Chicago Tribune, "world's Greatest Newspaper" which sharply criticized the effort in an editorial this week. The editorial is as follows:

INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE

It doesn't take an expert on the Constitution to see that the proposed draft of civilian man power for assignment at the President's discretion to industry or agriculture can't live long-side the 13th amendment. That amendment very clearly states: "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shal exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction."

When somebody proposes flatly to tell any woman between 18 and 50 and any man between 18 and 64 what kind of job he shall take, where he must work, and what hours, pay, or other conditions he must accept, it is difficult to discover what other words than "involuntary servitude" will accurately describe the citizen's status. Yet this bill was drafted by a lawyer, Mr. Grenville Clark. It was introduced in the senate by a lawyer, Mr. Warren Austin. It has been supported by the secretary of war, Mr. Stimson, who is a lawyer as well as a close friend of Mr. Clark. And it evidently has the approval of the President, who holds a law degree.

It is impossible that these lawyers or any lawyers, or, indeed, any one at all familiar with the Constitution, should be ignorant of the fact that the proposed legislation contravenes the 13th amendment. There are only a few circumstances in which the government can use compulsion to exact the citizen's services. It can coerce him to defend his country, and it can coerce him to enforce his country's laws. A citizen can be conscripted for military service in war and in peace a sheriff can deputize any citizen. But nowhere in our law or custom is there any precedent for requiring the citizens in his capacity as wage earner to place himself at the disposal of the state.

When the Constitution granted congress power to provide for organizing, arming, disciplining, governing, and calling forth the militia it was taken for granted that the citizens owed it to his country to bear arms in its defense. The 2nd amendment further clarified the citizen's military obligations when it gave him the right to keep and bear arms because "a well regulated militia" is "necessary to the security of a free state" and arms are necessary to the militia. Finally, by an act of 1903, the militia was specifically defined. It consists of every able bodied male citizen and every able bodied male of foreign birth who has declared his intention to become a citizen, who is more than 18 and less than 45. The organized militia is to be known as the National Guard and the remainder as the reserve militia. Thus it was understood that all citizens of proper age, even if not on regular militia duty, were still subject at all times to call. Conscription acts are, therefore, merely a convenience in summoning inactive militia to military service.

Nobody can pretend, however, that because able bodied males are required to give military service in necessary to their country, there is the slightest constitutional justification for assuming that all citizen sanction for the government to levy both men and women, can be required to place themselves at the disposal of the government for military and nothing else. To attempt to torture this into the safety of our country by stripping of our citizens who compose it of ordinary power of government, Congress will be welcome to invoked only in the event of invasion, or rebellion. The service commanded national security demands the passage of this bill. We cannot secure the 13th amendment the citizens their constitutional protections.

FIGHT TO PASS ANTI-POLL TAX, LYNCH BILLS GETS UNDERWAY

MAR 6 1943

WASHINGTON, D.C., Mar. 4—The fight for passage of national anti-lynching and anti-poll tax legislation begins in dead earnest Friday, March 5, when Representative Joseph A. Gavagan and Representative Vito Marcantonio, both of New York, will file discharge petitions to force a vote in the House of Representatives on each of these measures. The next stage in the fight is to get 218 Congressmen to sign each petition.

Both the Gavagan anti-lynching bill (H.R. 51) and the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill (H.R. 7), which were introduced on the first day of the present Congress, have been smothered in the House Committee on the Judiciary, of which Hatton Sumners, poll tax Congressman from Texas, is chairman.

SENATE KILLED LAST BILL

Under the rules of the House of Representatives when a proposed

NEW YORK, Mar. 4—Stressing the war urgency of legislation to abolish poll taxes, and urging maximum unity in the campaign to pass such legislation, the Executive Committee of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, last week recommended passage of the Marcantonio Anti-Poll Tax bill, HR 7.

bill has not been acted upon by a congressional committee for 30 days, a petition to discharge the committee from further consideration of the bill may be filed. If 218 members of Congress sign the petition then the bill is automatically brought to the floor of the House for a vote.

This procedure has been used previously to secure passage in the House of both anti-lynching and anti-poll tax legislation. It resulted in the passage of anti-lynching legislation by the House of Representatives on January 10, 1940, and in passage of anti-poll tax legislation on October 13, 1942. In both instances, however, the legislation was denied passage in the Senate through the filibuster tactics of southern Senators.

No companion anti-lynching and anti-poll tax bills have yet been introduced into the Senate. It is expected that Senators Van Nuys of Indiana and Pepper of Florida, who last year sponsored anti-lynching and anti-poll tax legislation, respectively, will do so again this year.

MARCANTONIO BROADCASTS

An effort has been made in the Senate, however, to forestall anti-poll tax legislation. Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming has proposed in a Senate joint resolution (S. J. Res. 2) a constitutional amendment to abolish the poll tax. This would require action by state legislatures of 36 states, even after passage of the legislation by both houses of Congress. Senator O'Mahoney was one of the principal opponents of anti-poll tax legislation in the Senate last year.

In a national radio broadcast from New York last Saturday Congressman Marcantonio called on the American people to rally behind the fight to enact anti-poll tax legislation. "In this war," he stated, "the effects of anti-poll tax legislation extend beyond our own borders. Not only will it lift the morale of the 13 million loyal Negro Americans in this country and thereby forge that national unity which is so essential to victory, but it will be living evidence and reaffirmation to our United Nations allies and to the colonial peoples in India, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbeans of our earnest and high resolve to win the battle for a free and democratic world. The best demonstration of our own sincerity to extend democracy all over the world is for us to extend it now, before the war is over, to everyone within our own borders."

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Hearing Held at Jeff City

FEB 19 1943

200 Persons Appear Before House Committee

FEB 19 1943

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. —Between 175 and 200 persons of both races appeared before a House committee here Wednesday night, Feb. 10, in support of House Bill No. 47, a Civil Rights proposal introduced by Rep. Edwin F. Kenswil of St. Louis.

The hearing was held in the chamber of the House of Representatives before the house committee on civil and criminal procedure.

Delegations from many cities throughout Missouri were present. Attorney John A. Davis, former member of the Missouri legislature, introduced the speakers.

The committee was urged by white and Negro speakers to make a favorable report on the bill which would make it illegal for public places like cafes, hotels and theatres to discriminate against persons because of their race or color.

FEB 19 1943

White Citizens Present

FEB 19 1943

The St. Louis delegation included a number of prominent white citizens who spoke in favor the bill.

FEB 19 1943

The speakers were: Carl R. Johnson, Kansas City lawyer, representing the Missouri Conference of N.A.A.C.P. branches; Louis Kimmel, St. Louis, representing the United Electric and Radio affiliate of the CIO; the Rev. Russel Brown, St. Louis, A. M. E. Interdenominational Alliance; Mrs. Ralph Trayer, St. Louis, American Civil Liberties Union; the Rev. H. H. Willkie, minister; David M. Grant, St. Louis, representing the Negro Elks; W. H. Kirk, representing the Missouri Association of Social Workers; George L. Vaughn, St. Louis attorney, representing the Cooperative Civic Association; Joseph L. McLemore, St. Louis attorney, representing the Mound City Bar association; Mrs. Lorraine Williams, St. Joseph N. A. A. C. P.; Mrs. Nina Shields, Columbia League of Women Voters; G. D. Brantley, principal, Sumner high school, St. Louis; Elmer Mosee, St. Louis, representing the American Legion and Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity; John Clark, St. Louis Urban League and Arnold Walker, St. Louis Urban League.

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Many Support Measure

The following persons were introduced as supporting the measure but time would not allow them to speak:

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Rev. C. P. Morrow, St. Joseph; N. A. Sweet, St. Louis American; J. E. Mitchell, St. Louis, editor of the Argus; Herbert Benjamin, St. Louis, Dr. G. J. Dixon, St. Louis; M. J. Hardiman, N.A.A.C.P., Jefferson City; Rev. James Bracy, Democratic and Republican committeemen: St. Louis; Jordan W. Chambers, St. Louis; Langston Harrison; William V. Morant, St. Louis, and Rev. C. A. Williams of Kansas City.

Members of the committee listened to the speakers attentively but made no comments at the hearing. There is one Kansas City member of the committee, Frank Benanti.

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Other members of the committee on civil and criminal procedure are: Charles Farrar, chairman, Buffalo, Mo.; Hartwell G. Crain, St. Louis county; Aubrey B. Hamilton, St. Louis; Theodore W. Hukriede, Warrenton; Phillip W. Moss, St. Louis; Milton F. Napier, St. Louis; William R. Nelson, St. Joseph; Frank Mashak, St. Louis and George Munger Bloomfield.

FEB 19 1943

Benanti, Mashak and Munger are Democrats, the others Republicans.

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When the bill has been acted upon by the committee, it goes to the floor of the house. If it passes the house, it then goes to the senate committee and then to the senate floor.

FEB 19

The Kansas City delegation at the hearing consisted of Carl R. Johnson, president of the Kansas City N.A.A.C.P. branch and chairman of the legal redress committee of the state N.A.A.C.P. association; Atty. L. A. Knox, Mrs. Leona H. Pouncey, Elmer Jackson Sr., John Fagan, and Rev. C. A. Williams.

FEB 19 1943

N. A. A. C. P. branches in St. Joseph, Kansas City, Jefferson City, Charleston and Sikeston were represented.

SO. CAROLINA'S WORK OR FIGHT BILL UNDER FIRE

Bee
Chicago, Ill.
JUL 1

COLUMBIA, S. C., July 8. (ANP)—Negro leaders were quick to reply to an explanation of the "work or fight" bill sponsored by Gov. Olin D. Johnston which appeared in Columbia's daily newspapers this week. This explanation from the governor tipped off the fire: "The work or fight act passed by the legislature, was the outgrowth of complaints . . . made by many citizens that a number of colored people and a few white people were refusing to work because some members of the family was receiving a portion of the pay of a soldier . . ."

It was also revealed that the act was an 11th hour accomplishment of the governor's request.

JUL 1943

Leaders said that emphasis was placed on Negroes in the statement, and that the campaign had been conducted mainly against Negroes. Pointing to the arrest of two colored women in Columbia last week because they had quit domestic jobs, one said: "The attempt is to force our women into the domestic roles, thereby releasing white women from household duties to do work at good pay, out of which colored women would be paid two or three dollars weekly."

James M. Hinton, president of the S. C. State NAACP convention, said that a "test case" should and probably would be made shortly. He said he had had many reports of unnecessary arrests and abuses because of the "work-or-fight" law and particularly because of the "work or jail" law being pushed by city police.

In the meantime, 29 persons, 26 of them Negroes, were arrested on the weekend and 24 fined from $2.50 to $10 for "loafing and loitering." It was disclosed that two men who work long hours at the Columbia Army Air base, who because of the long hours work only every other day, were summarily jailed by officers, though they displayed working cards and explained their working terms. The men, it was reported, were told while being arrested: "You ought to quit that job and get one for seven days like I have."

An investigation into current reports that Negro housewives are being told by unidentified persons to get a job somewhere or be jailed or put on the farm, was launched this week. Near-panic is reported in certain sections of Columbia and leaders regard this as "entirely unnecessary."

James Waiters, his uncle, Henry Waiters reported, sat in a cafe with his dinner a week ago. He had just gotten back in town from a long distance hauling trip. An officer entered, quizzed him then made him leave his meal while he carried him out to see if the employer really worked him. Scores of other reports are rampant and resentment is bitter.

1943

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Asininity of the N. A. A. C. P.

Washington Tribune

The time has come to call a halt to the type of bungling, double-talking and political baiting which was so efficiently conducted in the Senate of the Unites States last week with the help of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the American Teachers Association.

At a time when measures are being written and enacted into law to enhance the political, economic and educational improvements of the American people, it is certainly to the everlasting advantage of the Negro people to see to it that clauses are written into these measures that will make unlawful in their administration, discrimination on account of race, creed, or color.

Washington, D. C.

Consistently the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has urged the incorporation of such anti-discriminatory clauses in such laws, and just as consistently, men like Senators Bridges, Langer and Barbour have offered appropriate amendments. The N.A.A.C.P. has spent thousands of dollars lobbying to bring about the passage of such amendments.

Such clauses, at the behest of the NAACP, were included in the Selective Service Act, the Civil Aeronautics Law, the Nurses Training Act, the WAACS, and other measures. Some amendments to accomplish a similar objective are still pending in the Senate to bills which are not under study.

So consistently has the NAACP worked against discrimination and segregation that it recently fired one of its employees who had endorsed a segregated air corps of the Army.

The record of consistency on the part of the NAACP was heralded on the floor of the Senate last week, and many Senators who are counted among our friends were sincerely astonished at this right-about-face policy of the NAACP—much to the delight and glee of our Southern rebel members of the Senate.

For the first time we hear our Southern bigots in the Senate hail Walter White as a "great leader of his people," one whose leadership can be regarded as "wise and sound." And when men like Bilbo, Connolly, and others praise one of our race, it is time for the Negro to sit up and take notice of the subjects of such high praise.

Mr. White and the other Negro "leaders" who opposed the Langer amendment, did so they said, because it wouldn't "strengthen" the measure, while indeed it might result in its defeat.

We think that any measure seeking to appropriate 300 million dollars of money belonging to the taxpayers, to be spent by the Southern States, that doesn't carry with it safeguards against racial discrimination. should be defeated. Our position is that we would rather see the bill dead, than alive to perpetuate and make wider the gap between Negro and white education in the South.

Any measure, regardless of its nature, that appropriates money and contains an anti-discrimination clause in it, strengthens it regardless of what Mr. White and the other Uncle Toms who sent in telegraphic opposition think. If other measures were strengthened thereby at the request of Mr. White, why did he feel that this particular measure would not be strengthened?

Why did Southern Democrats and Tory Republicans oppose the amendment? If the South had intentions of administering the 300-million dollar bill fairly and without racial discrimination, why would they object to inclusion of such a provision in the basic law? Indeed, why did the South consider the amendment aimed at it, if its hands on racial matters are as clean as they professed them to be?

The South opposed the amendment because they saw in the measure means of avoiding the safeguards which it is claimed the bill already contained, while it would have been impossible to circumvent the purpose of the measure with the Langer amendment contained therein.

Now, why were the teachers so anxious that the bill pass without amendment? Because the bill would have netted them a neat $200 yearly increase in salary which they were certain of getting without the Langer Amendment. But what of the improvement in the education of Negro children; in facilities for Negro schools. The teachers were not interested in that phase of the bill. Their eyes were on that $200 yearly increase alone. But, as Senator Bridge pointed out, it is the children whose interest must be safeguarded, not the teachers. We found out what happens when we leave the interest of the children to the teachers and "Leader" White.

The American Teachers Association has paid huge sums of money into the Treasury of the NAACP in return for its activity in trying to equalize the salaries of Negro teachers in the Southern States. In all probability they rallied to the support of Mr. White behind the bill as originally drawn, and, of course, the one who pays the fiddler calls the tune.

Let it be made known to all whom it may concern, that regardless of the Whites, the Longs, the Williamses, the Johnstons, *Negroes* will be everlastingly in favor of anti-discriminatory amendments in all measures as long as we have a South that cannot be trusted to administer the law equitably and without discrimination on account of race. As long as we have a South that can flout the 14th and 15th Amendments of the Constitution, we cannot trust them to carry out any other law or act of Congress fairly unless made to do so.

We congratulate Senator Langer for standing by his guns, in spite of the White denunciation of his amendment. He has the sincere appreciation of all Negroes, who place the welfare of the majority above all else.

Senate Considers U. S. Bill To Aid Education

Defender

Chicago, Ill.

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — A determined effort to defeat the Senate bill to extend federal aid to the states which attempts to bring about some equalization of educational opportunities, particularly in the South, was led in the Senate last week by Sen. Robert Taft (R) of Ohio. Sen. Taft was following the new line of the Republican party, stressing "states rights."

Sen. Taft, very shrewdly, argued that the bill does not actually equalize the educational opportunities of white and Negro children in the South. He cited in a minority report on the bill that in Louisiana the cost per white pupil is $61.21, whereas the cost per Negro pupil is $12.62. "Nothing in this act requires any equalization between white and Negro pupils," he said. "It is true that the bill requires the Federal funds to be distributed on an equitable basis between white schools and Negro schools," he continued, "but it does not change the distribution of Louisiana funds."

Hits Federal 'Control'

But he did not advocate any change in the Louisiana proportions. In fact he says, in the same report—"Everyone agrees that complete federal control and direction are worse than the inequality which now exists."

The bill provides for an equitable distribution of the federal funds in those states where separate schools for whites and Negroes are provided by law, based on the population ratios of the two groups. Negro educators have pointed out that this provision, while not curing the inequalities already existent in the Southern states, reduces the amount of inequity by requiring a proportionate amount of the money to be devoted to the education of Negroes.

The bill has been endorsed by the NAACP, the CIO, the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, the National Negro Council and the United Government Employees, among some 50 other organizations of labor, educational and civic groups.

Sen. Taft, during the debate, declared—"It occurs to me that once the Federal government goes into the question of white and colored schools, we shall never stop. We shall go on until we require every state to permit colored and white children to go to the same schools, as we do in Ohio. If a bill of that sort is proposed, we shall have exactly the same problem presented that we had in connection with the poll tax bill and other measures. I THINK IT IS A SUBJECT ON WHICH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT BEGIN TO LEGISLATE."

The debate brought out the fact that in Mississippi, the amount spent on the education of each white child is $52; for a Negro child $7.

Army Education

The effect of this prejudiced blindness was indicated when Sen. Thomas of Utah pointed out that today the country is detailing majors and captains of the army to teach reading, writing and arithmetic. He said we are spending more money in teaching the 10 per cent of illiterates which the army is willing to receive than it would cost to enable such persons to complete elementary and high-school educations.

"Mr. President, from the economic standpoint," he said, "we are so penny-wise and pound-foolish that anyone who understands the simplest aspects of the economic life of our country cannot help but be ashamed." He continued—"And now we are going to draft fathers, many of whom have several children, because we have failed to make it possible for nearly a million boys to meet the A, B, C requirements, the lowest requirements of the army of the United States."

The strongest support for the bill came from the Southerners. Senator Hill of Alabama declared that illiteracy and near-illiteracy are the products of educational neglect in past year and must be stopped at their source. This can be done, he said, by giving educational opportunity to "all of the children of all the people of America."

Brown Reversal

Edgar Brown, head of the National Negro Council and the United Government Employees, who has his previous position on the bill reversed Although the record was an occurrence of a few months to the measure of Senator gone all-out Republican, which ago—he has now come out in oppo-Taft, Bridges, Wherry, and other

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Republicans. It has criticized Sen. Thomas (D) of Utah, who is leading the fight for the bill on the floor of the Senate, for having said in the debate: "There has been no attempt in this bill to equalize the pay of the Negro teacher with that of the white teacher in a given state. There is no attempt to interfere with the state management of such affairs, because they are too complex for us to handle. Objection would be raised if we should attempt to do so."

Brown said he is unalterably opposed to the Congress passing this "jim-crow school proposal unless the anti-discrimination amendments introduced by Sen. Warren W. Barbour and Sen. William Langer, prohibiting such wrongful administration of public monies is definitely made a part of this federal aid to educational law."

Toward Freedom

Republican Demagogy And Negro Education

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By DOXEY WILKERSON

THE demagogic double-play by which Republican Senators succeeded last week in killing the federal-aid-to-education bill (S. 637) is replete with legislative lessons for the Negro people and all other true progressives. The trickery by which this bill was defeated not only exposes the cynical disregard of the Republican leadership for the welfare of the Negro people and of public education in general; it also reveals the ease with which confused liberals are beguiled into the support of reaction.



Last Wednesday's Senate vote on the proposed "Educational Finance Act of 1943" was the climax of nearly a decade of struggle for federal subsidies to help states provide more adequate and more equal educational opportunities for millions of American children, especially in the South. The bill proposed a meager annual appropriation of $300,000,000. Of this total, $200,000,000 was for the purpose of raising teachers' salaries and employing additional teachers, thus checking the alarming wartime exodus of teachers to better-paying jobs. The remaining $100,000,000 was "for the purpose of more nearly equalizing public elementary and public secondary school opportunities among and within the States."

In clear and specific language, the bill prohibited any federal control or supervision over school personnel, administration, or instructional programs, but required full financial accounting to assure that states used the money for the purposes stated. The bill also guaranteed that separate Negro schools in the South would share equitably in the proposed federal educational funds.

The Negro school safeguard of the bill provided that, in order to receive funds "in states where separate public schools are maintained for separate races," the state legislature must "provide for a just and equitable apportionment of such funds for the benefit of public schools maintained for minority races, without reduction of the proportion of State and local moneys expended for . . . public schools for minority races." A "minority race" was defined as one "that constitutes a minority of the population of the continental United States." A "just and equitable apportionment" of the federal educational funds was defined as any plan by which the proportion spent for schools for minority racial groups would be "not less than the proportion that each such minority racial group in such State bears to the total population of that State."

Despite its small appropriation, passage of S. 637 would have meant longer school terms, less crowded classes, better teachers, and improved educational opportunities generally for millions of American children. It would have been a God-send to the neglected children and exploited teachers in the segregated Negro schools of the South. Moreover, by preventing any additional discrimination in the expenditure of state and local school funds, and by requiring a "just and equitable" division of the proposed federal funds, it would have narrowed the big gap which now exists between the educational opportunities of southern white and Negro citizens. This was, indeed, a progressive bill.

S. 637 had the active support of organized labor (with a notable exception), northern and southern state school administrators, national and state educational associations and Negro organizations throughout the country. Even the southern Senators, who several years ago opposed the provision safeguarding Negro schools, were now united in support of the bill. Major opposition came from big business and taxpayers associations, some of the Catholic hierarchy, and the small clique of defeatist Senators, mostly Republican, who seize every opportunity to oppose progressive win-the-war legislation.

It was clear that, in a straight-out vote, the coalition in support of the bill would win. Thus it was that the opposition resorted to trickery. Demagogically insisting upon even greater safeguards for Negro schools, the Senate Republican leadership called into play the old legislative device of amending a bill to "perfection" in order to insure its defeat.

In his column tomorrow Doxey Wilkerson will conclude his discussion of the successful maneuvers of the reactionary Republicans in relation to the federal-aid-to-education bill (S. 637).

Langer Kills School Aid By Irking Southerners

Amendment for Racial Equality Dooms Bill

PM New York, N. Y.

By ELIZABETH DONAHUE

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—The $300,000,000 aid-to-education bill died yesterday at the hands of its friends in the Senate when Sen. William Langer (R., N. D.) alienated Southern votes and doomed passage of the measure with an amendment to force racial equality in Southern schools.

The Southern Democratic bloc firmly supported the bill until Langer, representing a group of Northerners including Sen. Robert A. Taft (R., Ohio) stepped in at the last minute with his amendment compelling the Southern states to bring Negro schools up to the standards of the white schools through the use of both state and Federal funds.

Langer misled the Senate into believing that the amendment was supported by the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People. He asserted that he was acting in accordance with the NAACP's wishes, although the Association had telegraphed him the following statement:

"Your amendment would not strengthen the bill. It might jeopardize passage of the bill. The NAACP urges that you do not introduce your proposed amendment."

Langer's action was described by Sen. Walter George (D., Ga.) as "a great disservice to the Negro population."

The bill would have made $100,000,000 available to all states to increase educational opportunities. Another $200,000,000 would have been spent to raise sub-standard salaries of school teachers to decent levels.

Taft has been the ringleader of the Northern opposition, which has fought the measure because the wealthy states of the North would have an increased tax burden, while the poor Southern states would receive most from the Federal aid program. Both white and Negro schools would have received Federal money in proportion to the amount the state spent on them in 1943.

The Federal aid bill was supported by the Administration and indorsed by about 50 national education and welfare groups. It was actively supported by the state education associations of 46 states. It was vigorously opposed by spokesmen for the National Catholic Welfare Conference on the ground that parents whose children attend parochial schools would pay taxes but get no benefit from the Federal funds allocated for public schools.

afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Pending Law Would Curb Hate Strikers

Strikes against the employment or upgrading of colored workers in war industries, such as the ones which recently occurred in the Packard Motor Plant in Detroit and the Pontiac Island Yards of the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company at Mobile, Ala., would be curbed, if the anti-strike bill adopted by Congress becomes law.

The measure may become law either by President Roosevelt's signing it or by his allowing it to become law without his signature after the ten-day interim provided for in the Constitution.

Organized labor is urging the President to veto the bill. So far as can be learned, no representations in behalf or or against the measure have been made by any colored organizations.

The liberal National Maritime Union has asked the President to veto the bill, on the theory that it would make "all labor a hostage for John L. Lewis's deeds."

Bans Strikes

The measure gives the administrative branch of the government authority to seize mines or plants where labor trouble threatens or has brought about interruption of production. Strikes then would be banned.

The bill would be operative in cases of privately owned plants through a section requiring a 30-day notice of intention to strike, with a strike order possible only after a majority vote in a secret ballot.

Any person convicted of instigating or encouraging a strike in a government-operated plant would be subject to criminal penalties [illegible] and a year in jail. In the case of violation of the section covering privately operated plants, the offender would be subject to civil damage suit.

CONGRESS FIGHT FOR SCHOOL AID TO BE CONTINUED

Birmingham, Ala. Negro Digest
November 4, 1943

Injection Of Race Issue By Senate Flayed In State

MONTGOMERY—"The people of Alabama are keenly disappointed by the defeat in the U. S. Senate of the bill providing federal funds for education," said W. E. Snuggs, president of the Alabama Education Association, "but they are not discouraged. The defeat is only a temporary setback."

"The equity of the proposal to have the federal government equalize educational opportunities in the several states guarantees ultimate success," the school official said.

"The people of the state are greatly indebted to the superb leadership of Sen. Lister Hill as one of the co-sponsors of this bill, S. 637, in the Senate. Reports from Washington indicate that Sen. Hill made one of the most memorable fights of his career and one of the most successful despite temporary

defeat of the measure. Friends and opponents of the bill in Washington unite in testifying to Sen. Hill's grasp of the problem and to his skillful handling of the issues in the long debate."

However, he pointed out that the nomic conditions of the South. In this shortsighted step these leaders were aided and abetted by certain Northern leaders, Mr. Snuggs explained.

According to reports from Washington, Walter White, secretary of the Association for the Advancement of the Colored People regretted because it was brought about by the injection of the race issue by certain Northern leaders who have invariably opposed the amendment which killed the measure.

According to Mr. Snuggs, the defeat of the bill is the more to be improvement of social and economic conditions of this association.

52b-1943

Self-Government for District Provided in Bill Introduced In Senate by McCarran

Washington Tribune

Washington, D. C.

(See Editorial)

Senator Pat McCarran announced this week that a committee, headed by himself, would consider soon a bill he introduced last week to provide for a Board of Seven Commissioners, to be elected by citizens of the District, who will supercede the present three-man Board appointed by the President.

The Board of Commissioners, under the McCarran proposal, would appoint a city manager at a salary of $20,000 per annum. Commissioners would be elected for two-year terms and receive compensation of $8,000 per annum, plus $5,000 each for clerical hire, and $3,600 for a secretary for each Commissioner.

The bill divides the District into seven wards, which are subdivided by tracts used by the last Federal Census.

A three-man election commission would conduct the election and set up the machinery for the election. They would be the corporation counsel, the tax assessor and the director of the Bureau of the Census, all of whom are white.

Ward 4, the largest, would be dominated by Negroes, with only 35,736 whites residing therein as against 62,416 Negroes. It is the area in central northwest Washington.

The other Wards have populations as follows: Ward 1, 68,817 white, 27,830 Negro; Ward 2, 70,697 white, 27,295 Negro; Ward 3, 66,930 white, 28,399 Negro; Ward 5, 67,659 white, 22,656 Negro; Ward 6, 84,469 white, 14,338 Negro; Ward 7, 81,020 white, 5,621 Negro.

The bill would give the new Commissioners power to make local ordinances, subject to the veto of the chairmen of the respective District Committees of Congress.

The measure is receiving the support of various District civic groups and persons familiar with different forms of local self-government.

Huge School Aid Bill Dies In Senate Vote

Mobile, Ala. Register

October 21, 1943

Wrangle Over Equality Amendment Sends $300,000,000 Measure Back To Education Committee

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.—(AP)—Sponsors of a bill to provide $300,000,000 a year in federal grants to public schools wrote the measure off as dead tonight, saying it was killed by a broad antiracial discrimination amendment which cost it Southern support. Acceptance of the amendment, offered by Senator Langer, Republican, North Dakota, by a vote of 40 to 37, was followed by 53 to 35 vote to recommit the measure to the education committee.

The Langer amendment prohibited discrimination in the benefits and appropriations authorized under the bill "or in state funds supplemented thereby," on account of 'race, creed or color."

Amendment Opposed

The change was adopted despite assertions by Senators Hill, Democrat, Alabama, and Thomas, Democrat, Utah, that it was opposed by Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People, for fear it would jeopardize passage of the bill.

Majority Leader Barkley, Kentucky, said he opposed it because "I was not willing to play politics with the subject of education," or encumber the bill with an amendment which would "endanger its passage."

"Nobody who had any fear of federal control of education in the states could vote for this bill as amended," Senator George, Democrat, Georgia, told his colleagues in forecasting the measure's death.

Addressing himself to senators who supported the Langer amendment, George said:

"Every intelligent negro in the country will definitely understand you voted against his interests, because you killed this legislation."

Hill Joins Vote

Even Hill, co-sponsor of the measure, joined in the vote sending it back to committee.

Twenty-eight Republicans and 12 Democrats voted for the amendment, two Republicans, Aiken of Vermont and Burton of Ohio, and 35 Democrats against it.

The recommital motion won the support of all the Southerners whose states would have been among the principal beneficiaries under one section of the bill authorizing federal grants of $100,000,000 annually, to be distributed on the basis of financial need, for equalizing educational opportunities in the so-called "poorer states."

Another $200,000,000 was sought for distribution on an enrolled pupil basis to enable states to raise salaries of teachers.

Senator Thomas "challenged the sincerity" of senators who had opposed the bill on the ground that it might lead to federal control of the schools and yet supported the Langer amendment "to give the government definite control over even state expenditures for schools."

FEDERAL CONTROL OF EDUCATION

Seneca, S. C.

It is high time that we, here in South Carolina decided whether or not we desire the Federal government to control our educational system. Before the Congress is a bill that will appropriate, if passed, to the several states huge funds for federally supported education. The measure provides, among other things, that funds shall be apportioned to white and Negro schools on the basis of population. The bill is supposed to have certain safeguards to prevent the federal government from prescribing how our schools shall be run.

October

But we have always been afraid of a thing that "sounds too good." Here is the proposition: Uncle Sam will put up the money. We'll spend it and operate the schools. We don't believe it. We are certain that if federal funds are spent to support state educational systems, the federal government will tell the states directly or indirectly, how to use the funds.

Around this school bill hinges the future discussions of the race and other antagonistic questions. We are afraid of it. We think South Carolinians should look with misgivings upon the measure. It could mean that white and colored children will eventually attend the same schools. It certainly will infect the race sore in the Southland.

Austin-Wadsworth Labor Draft Law Means Slavery For Colored Workers

OCT 1943

Tribune

Philadelphia, Pa.

BECAUSE of the manpower shortage the Austin-Wadsworth bill to draft labor is now "must" legislation before Congress. According to reports, President Roosevelt has given this "forced labor" bill his blessings.

Some supporters of the bill argue that since the Government drafts men for the armed forces, why not draft them to work in factories and on farms?

It is one thing to draft men to fight, but it is entirely different to draft them to work. The first is necessary to the protection of the country. The second is slavery.

But far above every other consideration, colored people must oppose the proposed "forced labor" law because those who administer it will undoubtedly "freeze" colored people in the lowest paid and most menial jobs.

Unfortunately, it is necessary for colored people, even during a war, to watch every proposal which might be used as a method to further enslave them. Then, too, if all available colored manpower was used, there would be no manpower shortage.

The Austin-Wadsworth bill should not be enacted into law.

Many Measures Are Waiting Consideration

SEP 18 1943

Courier

Pittsburgh Pa.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16—Congress reconvened Wednesday following a two-month vacation and several bills and resolutions effecting the welfare of colored citizens throughout the nation are awaiting consideration.

Along with measures dealing with labor, taxation, price control, and the draft, which unquestionably affect all Americans, Negroes will find themselves called up to place pressure behind the anti-poll tax and anti-lynch bills and resolutions calling for congressional investigation of discrimination in the armed forces, war industries and of the causes of race riots.

It is believed that most of the measures will be met by the representatives with an eye on impending 1944 congressional elections. The amount of pressure that can be brought to bear by colored voters will have a great deal of effect on the success of each.

FILIBUSTER EXPECTED

A battle royal is expected to meet the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill when it reaches the floor of the upper chamber with the Southerners resorting to the filibuster, their most effective weapon. The bill, which passed through the House in record time through masterful management, is now in the hands of a sub-committee of the judiciary committee.

Interest lags in the anti-lynch bill, now resting in the hands of the committee, with the tapering off of lynching this year and the success of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in bringing about several indictments against lynch suspects. There is a great deal of doubt surrounding the future of the Gavagan act.

PUSH COURIER RESOLUTION

OCT 2 1943

SEP 18 1943

Congressman Arthur G. Klein, New York, calling for the establishment of a special committee to investigate charges of discrimination in the armed forces, introduced by Senator Sheridan Downey of California.

PROBE WORK STOPPAGES

A resolution by Congressman Arthur G. Klein, New York, calling for the establishment of a special committee to investigate charges of discrimination in the armed forces, introduced by Senator Sheridan Downey of California.

The frequent stoppages occasioned either by the introduction or upgrading of Negro workers in a plant, the future of this resolution rests largely with the insistence of the War Manpower Commission for the full utilization of available labor resources, and the Senate military committee. Although busy with the manpower of race riots presented by Senator Styles Bridges of New Hampshire, mission for an investigation into the causes an investigating committee asking that the west coast, the Detroit outbreaks is stagnating plants was presented by Senator Sheri- Senator presented to the Courier spon- has not been acted upon spring, calling for the resolution It is feared that it will not get any action unless there is a sharp increase of rioting.

Fair Employment Practice Committee in prosecuting cases of discrimination.

Of interest to the Negro in Washington, is a civil rights bill for the District of Columbia. Representative William A. Rowan of Chicago and Senator Warren Barbour of New Jersey have both introduced bills and each is stuck in a committee.

Tomlinson Todd, of Washington, as a one man pressure organization, has enlisted the support of several local organizations behind his effort to have the bill placed before the House. Included among the groups promising co-operation is the Fraternal Council of Negro churches with Rev. William H. Jernagin pledging full support.

Post
Washington, D. C

School Aid Bill Recommitted In Senate Vote

The Senate sent a $300,000,000 school-aid bill to a committee pigeon-hole yesterday after opponents tacked on an amendment designed to prevent racial or other discrimination in the distribution of either Government or State school funds.

By a vote of 53 to 26, it recommitted the measure to the Education Committee on motion of Senator Taft (Republican) of Ohio.

Southern Senators, among the principal supporters of the bill, joined its opponents in voting to send it back to committee after acceptance of the antiracial amendment, offered by Senator Langer (Republican) of North Dakota.

Even Senator Hill (Democrat) of Alabama, who introduced the bill jointly with Senator Thomas (Democrat) of Utah voted to recommit it.

Under the bill, 200 million dollars would be allocated in proportion to pupil attendance in the various States. The other 100 hundred million dollars, intended to equalize educational opportunities, would be distributed on the basis of financial need, reckoned under a complicated formula.

Senators Say Education Bill Won't Equalize Opportunities

Taft Charges It Would Lead to Federal Control of State School Systems; Co-Sponsors Urge Passage

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

Senate debate on the $300,000,000 Federal aid to education bill last week centered on the question of whether the proposed legislation would, in fact, equalize educational opportunities.

This issue was [illegible] when Senator [illegible] Thomas, of Utah, sponsor of the measure, stated that the object of the bill is to give every child an equal opportunity.

Inequalities Increased

Senator Robert A. Taft, of Ohio, vigorous opponent of the measure, pointed out that present inequalities would only be increased by the bill since funds are to be distributed proportionately between white and colored pupils.

He stated as an example, Louisiana, which now spends $61 a year for a white child's education and $12 for a colored child's. After the passage of the bill, he said, Louisiana would spend $76 a year for the education of each white pupil but only $23 a year for the education of each colored pupil.

Senator Thomas admitted that the bill [illegible] not bring about equality of educational opportunity, but argued that that "is no reason for not doing some good and not attempting to overcome an evil which exists."

Fears Gov't Control

Senator Taft also charged that such legislation would pave the way for Federal regulation of schools.

"Once the Federal Government goes into the question of white and colored schools, we shall never stop," he said. "We shall go on until we require every State to permit colored and white children to go to the same schools, as we do in Ohio. I think it is a subject on which the Federal Government should not begin to legislate."

Hill Urges Passage

The other Senator speaking for the bill was its co-sponsor, Lister Hill (D., Ala.) who cited the loss of thousands of teachers from the nation's schools during the past year because of higher wages outside the teaching profession.

The measure would provide emergency appropriations up to $200,000,000 annually to enable States to raise teachers' salaries and $100,000,000 a year to improve educational opportunities in the "poorer" States.

Opposition to it represented all sections of the country, including Senators Harry Byrd (D., Va.); Raymond Willis (D., Ala.); Pat McCarran (D., Nev.); David Walsh (D., Mass.); John Overton (D., La.); and John Danaher (R., Conn.).

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

GOP Accused of Using Racial Issue to Kill Education Bill

WASHINGTON

A group of Republican Senators stood accused of "playing to the 1944 gallery" and "hiding behind the race issue," this week, following virtual defeat of the $300,000,000 Federal Aid to Education Bill, through addition of a questionable anti-discrimination amendment.

The bill, well on its way to Senate adoption, was returned to the committee following adoption of Senator William Langer's (R., N. Dak.) amendment which would regulate racial apportionment not only of the contemplated Federal funds, but also of State educational expenditures.

Bill Had Safeguards

Strongly and bitterly opposing introduction of the Langer amendment was Walter White, NAACP secretary, who pointed out that safeguards against racial discrimination in the use of Federal funds were already provided in the bill.

His contention that the amendment's provision for Federal regulation of State expenditures was unconstitutional was shared by Senator Elbert Thomas, co-sponsor of the bill, who charged that those who voted for it knew so, and voted for the amendment for the sole purpose of killing the bill.

Opponents for Amendment

This was borne out by the fact that, with the exception of Langer and one or two other Senators, all of the 28 Republicans and 12 Democratic Senators who voted for the amendment had previously opposed the bill.

White, under fire from many sources because of a wire which he sent to Senator Langer, requesting that he withdraw his amendment, pointed out that the rights of colored pupils and teachers in States with segregated schools were protected under Section 13, Section D of the measure.

Rights Protected

The section referred to provides that [illegible] Federal funds be divided in accordance with the proportion of a racial minority to the total population of States where segregated educational systems exist.

An additional safeguard is contained in Section 6, which states that following enactment of the bill, there shall be no reduction of the proportion of State and local moneys expended for educational purposes during the fiscal year ended in 1942 for public schools for minority races.

White's Statement

Charging that the Langer amendment had resulted in the final blow to the bill without providing any possibility of strengthening it, White said:

"Millions of children in the South and thousands of teachers will suffer because of this political trickery. The men who killed this bill are hiding behind the pretense that they were fighting for colored people and against discrimination.

"We are convinced that on the discrimination point the bill as drawn gave adequate protection as could be secured while still remaining constitutional. There were powerful forces against this bill, but they would have been defeated. They knew that when debate opened, so they dragged out the race issue which was the only move that could stave off defeat."

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Georgia Editors Say:

POLITICS KILLS AID TO SCHOOLS

(From The Oglethorpe Echo)

The bill that would provide $300,000,000 a year in federal grants to the public schools of the nation was recently killed in the senate by a vote of 40 to 37.

Opponents of the bill had contended for a long time that it would enable the federal government to dictate to the states the subjects and texts to be taught in our public schools, denying the states the right to decide how best to educate their youth. They could no longer contend that this would hold true because the bill as wrote into the bill the provision that the states should be the sole judge as to the educational program within their jurisdiction. When this had been done everyone thought the bill would be speedily enacted into law. But not so, for Senator Langer, a Republican from North Dakota, attached a rider to the bill prohibiting discrimination in the benefits and appropriations authorized under the bill "or in state funds supplemented thereby on account of race, creed or color."

It is a plain case of playing politics as it was a bid for the Negro vote in the coming elections. In this respect it has proven a boomerang, as prominent leaders of the Negro race have deluged congress with protests. They all want the bill passed in its original form and it is reported that Langer and his crowd want to retrieve the bill from the committee and place it before the senate in its original form.

52b-1943

Negro People, Labor Demand Marcantonio Bill Be Passed

The Worker
New York, N. Y.
(Special to The Worker)

WASHINGTON, — As the 78th Congress swung into action two weeks ago after some eight weeks at home finding out how the folks felt about it, the Negro people, among others, took stock of their position and decided also to swing into action.

The Negro people are watching Congress closely to see what it will do about certain bills and resolutions now before it. These include HR-7, the anti-poll tax bill introduced last session by Congressman Vito Marcantonio. HR-7, owing to first rate organization in the House and among the electorate at large, came through triumphantly. It ran against the hedgehog defenses of the Senate opposition, however, and has been shelved since.

The Negro people and their progressive friends, including CIO President Philip Murray, don't intend to allow HR-7 to lie unnoticed. Negro newspapers throughout the nation are urging the people once more to write letters and telegrams and organize delegations of protest against allowing the anti-poll tax bill to die.

Murray last Wednesday urged the Senate Judiciary Committee to act favorably on HR-7. It was due for a hearing on Friday. In his letter to Chairman Frederick Van Nuys of Indiana Murray said that the fascist enemy noted and made use of every semblance of denial of democracy in the United States. He said that "disenfranchisement of millions of voters because of poll tax restrictions has been a political evil at all times," and that in war time "it is an obstacle to our military efforts."

ANTI-LYNCH BILL

Then there is the anti-lynching bill which, during the past several months, has been lying in committee, ignored by the nation's lawmakers. The Negro press had begun to call for renewed action by the people on this bill. The fight for it is going to be hard, the Negro newspapers admit. One writer explains that "the tapering off in lynching this year" and some success by the FBI in getting indictments against lynchers lie behind the apathy.

It is timely to remind supporters of the anti-lynch measure that getting indictments is one thing but that getting convictions is something else. The FBI has got no convictions of lynchers, so far as we know. Some persons fear that Joseph Gavagan's withdrawal from Congress to become Democratic-Republican candidate for the New York State Supreme Court bench may weaken the fight for his bill to outlaw mob murder.

These fears, however, should be brushed aside and the bill pushed all the more vigorously. It is significant that the Negro press counts heavily on labor to help in passing both the anti-lynch and anti-poll tax measures.

WELFARE OF NEGROES

Aside from these two important laws, there are a number of resolutions on Negro welfare before Congress.

Senator Sheridan Downey's resolution, introduced last year, demanded the setting up of a special committee to investigate charges of discrimination in the armed forces. It is still pertinent. The question of alleged mistreatment of Negro soldiers — especially owing to the fact that these men are already on the way to die, if need be, to preserve the "American way of life"—is considered by the Negro people to be as important as any they have ever faced. They want action. The California Senator's resolution stands a chance to be acted on—if the people will act on the Senate. Nor should the people wait until there is another [illegible] outbreak before raising their voices for action on Congressman Arthur G. Klein's resolution calling for investigation into the causes of such outbreaks. This New York Democrat introduced his resolution following the Detroit outbreaks.

A matter of particular interest to the residents of the District of Columbia—which should interest voters throughout the United States—is that of getting through Congress a civil rights bill allowing residents of the District to vote as do most other qualified citizens of the USA.

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Quill Goes to Capital for Anti-Bias Bills

Michael J. Quill, recently elected member of the City Council and chairman of the Political Action Committee of the Greater New York CIO Council, will join with other leaders from different parts of the country in a delegation to Washington on Monday to testify on the Lynch and Dickstein bills to curb race prejudice and anti-Semitism, before the House Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads.



Michael J. Quill

For many years a leader in the fight against anti-Semitism and racial discrimination not only in New York but throughout the country, Quill states that immediate passage of these bills to forbid the sending of discriminatory material through the mails would be a body blow at Hitler and his agents in this country who seek to promote race violence and disunity.

"Only by hitting these disrupters and hitting them hard, can the people of the United States preserve the unity which is so essential to the winning of the war," Quill said.

The CIO delegation, representing the more than 500,000 members affiliated with the CIO Council, will also include leaders of the 20 CIO Community Councils.

Action Needed On Pending Measures

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON — (CNS) — Eight National Organizations, including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, AFL and CIO Unions, Consumers and Farmers organizations are urging that local churches, clubs, fraternal organization leaders take quick steps to urge Senator Robert Wagner, Chairman of the Senate Banking and Currency Committee to remove Clause three from the House Bill No. 3477 and thus support the Food Subsides Aid To Farm Produces, so that the cost of living to the consumer will be less then now. Wires to Senators from each state and to Senator Robert Wagner have been recommended by the United Radio Electrical and Machine Workers and other organizations

Tax Bill H R 3587 passed by the house with a sales tax admendment now pending in Senate. Wires and letters to Senators from each state urging sales tax provision be dropped.

Soldier's Vote Senate Bill 1285: wires and letters that this be passed as written. Much opposition to giving soldiers right to vote is being made by poll tax senators who don't want Negro soldiers to vote.

Poll Tax Outlaw Bill—HR7—Keep writing and wiring Senators to vote for CLOTURE to kill Filibuster plot of Poll Tax Senators.

Social Security, Senate Bill 1161, House Bill 2861—Greatly extends scope of benefits to increase payments to Servicemen.

Urge Senators to hold early hearings on Science and Inventors Aid Bell, Senate Bill No. 702.

Federal Interference

Reason for defeat of the measure which would have appropriated $300 000,000 in federal funds for equalization of educational opportunities between the various states, was an amendment which, placed in the bill itself, did exactly what proponents of the measure were most anxious to prevent. That was, interfere with the state right to direct and control public education. Constitution

The bill as originally drawn provided careful safeguard against any federal interference with school control. The money was simply to be given the states on a basis of population and financia' need, in order that children born in poorer states might have a more nearly equal start in life to those fortunate enough to reside in the richer states.

The amendment, however, constituted a direct interference with this right of the state to control its educational system. For it provided there must be no discrimination because of "race, creed or color," in the use of the fund "or in state funds supplemented thereby." This flatly provided for federal control of education. Atlanta, Georgia

There is no desire by any state, least of all those of the south, to be unfair to any segment of population for any cause, including those specified as "race, creed or color." However, there are many angles to the problem of education in states whose population is separated into two distinct races, the white and the Negro.

But, regardless of how thoroughly a state may believe in educational equality for all, it would be unthinkable to permit the federal government to assume control, not only of federal funds, but of state school funds also. Yet this was exactly what was proposed in the amendment adopted.

It is sad that a bill which would have done much toward giving American children that equality of opportunity which is basic to the American theory of society, should be defeated by such political trickery as shown in the writing of the objectionable amendment. But, the money we spend, in Georgia and better to defeat the entire bill, at least tem- porarily, than approve an amendment which would give Washington bureaucracy control of the education of our children.

Cheap Sectional Politics

Amsterdam News New York, N. Y.

In the midst of the second World War in the last quarter century, it is time for every American citizen to stop and take stock of the attitude and actions of his representative body, the United States Congress. The foundation of free government, the official voice of a free people, the United States Congress is the bulwark of our democracy. But is it?

Unfortunately, the answer is no. For Congress has demonstrated beyond a shadow of doubt that it is not interested in the welfare of the nation, but in the selfish interests of politicians, big business and other special interest groups. In fact, Congress is practically bossed today by special interest groups.

The failure last week of the Senate to pass the Soldier Vote bill is an outstanding, but only one, instance of Congress's willingless to play cheap sectional and party politics — the kind of cheap politics that will disfranchise 10 million American citizens fighting in our armed forces for the protection of our free institutions.

The Senate played the role of Judas in this instance, because the Southern senators were afraid to support any legislation that would give Negro and white members of the armed forces from poll tax states an opportunity to vote, even in a national election. Allied with the 24 Southern Senators who knifed the Soldier Vote bill were 18 Republicans. They voted against the bill because they feared that a great majority of the soldiers would vote for President Roosevelt if he is nominated for a fourth term. Therefore, only one conclusion can be drawn from the action of these Democrats and Republicans: they are afraid to permit 10 million citizens to exercise their constitutional privilege of suffrage. They are afraid because they believe they themselves and their henchmen may suffer if the soldiers vote.

Instead of bowing their heads in shame after knifing democracy in the back, the Southern senators immediately showed their deep yellow streak by bellowing their corny bluff about seceding from the Democratic Party, when Senator Joseph Guffey (D., Pa.) courageously put them on the spot by denouncing their unholy alliance with the 18 Republicans. By so doing, these Southerners, who have fought consistently against any kind of progressive legislation, proved again that they are for the South and its Fascist system first, last and always, despite their hypocritical denials to the contrary.

It should be pointed out, meantime, that the Republican senators are no whit better. They vote with the Southerners every time they get a chance to knock the New Deal, the Negro, or any kind of progressive legislation. They refused to vote for cloture in 1938, when by doing so they could have forced the passage of the Wagner-Van Nuys Anti-lynching Bill, and in 1942, when they permitted the Southerners to filibuster the Marcantonio anti-Poll Tax bill to death. In fact, the reactionism of the Dixie Democratic congressmen and many of the Northern Republicans make them ideally suited as party members. Both are against the Negro, labor and practically everything progressive.

Fortunately, the people of this country have the right to veto the actions of these native fascists masquerading as representatives of the electorate. Some of these would-be representatives come up for re-election next year. While it is too much to expect that even half of them will be defeated, it is probable that some of them will be. However, this will be up to the voters, and the way in which they vote will be the only factor that will decide how many of these anti-Negro, anti-labor, anti-progressive congressmen will be defeated. Every vote against them is a vote for Democracy. It is the duty of American citizens — black and white — to vote against any congressman who votes against America. That's exactly what the 24 Democratic and 18 Republican senators did.

The Race Libel Curb

Legislation to ban racially discriminatory literature or pictures from the mails was urged upon the House Postoffice and Post Roads subcommittee in Washington, D. C., last week by representatives of labor and minority groups.

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa

The proposed law would bar from the mails defamatory and false statements against racial or religious groups, and is being pushed by the CIO, the AFL, the American Jewish Congress, National Negro Congress, and several Jewish and Catholic groups.

Of course Negroes, having been the worst victims of racially discriminatory and defamatory literature and pictures sent through the mails, would be among the first and foremost to want something done to stop it, but second thought should give some pause.

The argument presented by Postmaster General Frank C. Walker and Vincent M. Miles, Solicitor of the Postoffice Department, seems to us to merit close study.

They contend that such a law, aside from being unconstitutional and a violation of the right of free speech, would increase rather than decrease racial prejudice and would present serious administrative difficulties.

Not only that, but the passage of such a law would necessitate the expansion of the already-swollen bureaucracy to unheard of dimensions in order to examine everything sent through the mails and to hold hearings and trials on debatable matter, with taxes necessarily increased to pay the cost of this super-snooping.

Prohibition demonstrated to the satisfaction of most Americans that the country could not be legislated into temperance, and it is doubtful whether the people can be legislated into tolerance.

There is certainly anti-Semitic, anti-Catholic and anti-Negro material being sent through the mails, which indicates that there are millions of Americans who hate Jews, Catholics and Negroes; but will censoring the mail stop this hatred?

There was anti-Semitism, anti-Catholicism and anti-Negroism long before there was a postal service or a popular press.

Quite aside from these considerations, however, is the danger of legislation which curbs freedom of expression and establishes domestic censorship.

Under such a law a Negro newspaper, reporting the truth about a lynching in Georgia or the skullduggeries of officialdom in Ohio, could be charged with sending through the mail literature and pictures discriminating against and defamatory of white people, and would doubtless be found guilty, what with the federal bureaus loaded down with Southern Negrophobes.

As it is now, Americans are free to mail both favorable and unfavorable opinions about each other through the mails. If the statements are libelous of any individual or organization, redress can be had in the courts.

If the labor unions, Jewish and Catholic groups want to do something really constructive toward lessening racial hatred, we make the following suggestions:

(a) All labor unions cease discriminating against Negro workers, as many now do, and establish an educational fund in each city to undermine the foundations of racial prejudice.

(b) All Jewish organizations get their members to not discriminate against Negro workers solely because of their color.

(c) The Catholic churches and organizations to end all discrimination against and segregation of Negro Catholics, and to urge all Catholics to not discriminate against Negro workers because of their color.

If these groups will concentrate on educating their own members and the general public by practicing toward Negroes what they preach to others to do, racial hatred will rapidly decrease because American racial and religious prejudices have Negrophobia as their foundation.

Prejudice against Jews and Catholics grows because prejudice against Negroes is encouraged. Eliminate the latter and you kill the former, which is more than any federal law will do.

52b-1943

Soldiers' Votes and States' Rights

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

The action of the U. S. Senate in throwing out the Green-Lucas Service Men's Absentee Voting Bill and substituting another measure sponsored by Senators James O. Eastland of Mississippi, John I. McClellan of Arkansas and Kenneth McKellar of Tennessee turning the armed forces balloting program back to the States, undoubtedly dooms any hope that Negro soldiers and sailors from poll tax States will vote in the 1944 election.

While the legislation adopted does not repeal the suspension of requirements for personal registration and payment of poll taxes, which were written into the 1942 Soldier Voting Law, it must be remembered that State election officials, acting under State laws, will determine who is qualified to receive a State ballot in response to a postal-card application.

DEC 18 1943

This application card will be the means by which hundreds of thousands of colored citizens in the armed services who hail from Southern States will be deprived of voting for the next President, although they are risking their lives that this nation may live and prosper.

While the declared issue was States' Rights, there is ground for suspicion that the real issue was the Negro vote, and in their efforts to prevent that vote from being cast to the prejudice of the oligarchical Southern political system, the Senators who voted for the measure were quite willing to torpedo the voting rights of all service people.

DEC 18 1943

As Senator Scott Lucas, Illinois Democrat, put it, the Senate's action was "the hardest blow that was ever struck at the political rights of a soldier in time of war."

Senator Guffey, Pennsylvania Democrat, castigated those who voted for the measure as an "unholy alliance" of Southern Democrats with Republicans to deprive the armed forces of America of the right to vote; and Senate Leader Barkley of Kentucky joined in criticism of the measure.

It is true that 18 Republicans joined with 24 Democrats to kill the Green-Lucas measure and adopt the substitute, making the vote 42 tc 37, but the jubilation of Southern Senators over passage of the Eastland-McClellan-McKellar bill, as compared with the apologetic attitude of the Republicans, smells very strongly of something more than concern for the protection of States' Rights.

Senator Eastland strengthened this suspicion by gloating that "This vote by the Senate has put an end to any chance for the enactment by Congress of anti-poll tax legislation. We have the votes to block cloture in the Senate."

Representative Rankin of Mississippi crowed over passage of the substitute measure as "one of the greatest victories for States' rights and constitutional government in the history of the nation."

Arkansas' Senator McClellan echoed this feeling of satisfaction with the pious assurance that "The soldiers will have the same rights they always have had to vote and if the States exert themselves as suggested in this bill there is no reason why they can't provide adequate means for such balloting according to the State's own laws."

DEC 18 1943

Of course Senator McClellan knows that this almost automatically rules out the Negro service people's ballots being counted, since local officials will know which soldier voter is colored and which is white, and a way will doubtless be found to kill the colored votes.

In winning this victory for the status quo, however, the casting of votes by white service people will be made immeasurably more difficult if not impossible because of the tremendous administrative complications caused by separate balloting commissions from the 48 States, where-as Federal supervision would have been simple, efficient and swift, to say nothing of being fair.

States' Rights has again become a log athwart the path of progress and justice.

10 MILLION SOLDIERS BETRAYED

Bee (Magazine Section
Chicago, Ill

DEC 26 1943

By LESTER E. BROWN.

The Green-Lucas "soldier vote" bill was finally guillontined by the outspoken democratic territories and the weak-kneed Republican conservatives of the Senate. This defenseless defeat bill, designed to enfranchise in 1944, ten million Americans serving in various army forces showed one thing above all, namely, that there are many who are AFRAID of a big electorate in the coming presidential election.

DEC 26 1943

This voting occasioned a big day" for the 24 democratic poll taxers (only six were not from the South). Likewise, the 18 opportunist Republicans were willing to join this conspiracy against the "soldier vote."

DEC 9 1943

An inane substitute bill was drawn up, and finally approved. It accomplished its purpose. It is empty, powerless and therefore meaningless save for the fact that it served its purpose in relegating to the junk heap a bill that had purpose, wisdom and a sense of citizenship rights for those who had been transformed from their civilian to a military way of life.

DEC 26 1943

Three southern bourbon democrats led this ignominious fight. Whereas, the Green-Lucas bill would have created by Federal action a bi-partisan commission of four to insure every soldier (and W[illegible] a chance to vote without relying on the whims of state legislation, this substitute bill throws out the commission and "recommends" to the several states that they "enact appropriate legislation.

DEC 26 1943

What are the real issues behind this facade of hypocrisy and gross falsification? The southerners did not want these ten million soldiers to vote because there are too many hundreds of thousands of Negro voters in the ranks for their comfort. "State rights," yes, that was an issue—even if a bogus one.

DEC 26 1943

But the "state rights" more properly should be called the ruling cliques' prerogatives as to who and how many people will vote. State rights then are simply the "rights" needed to stay in power in the South.

All students of American history are familiar with the real and bogus use of the term "states rights." It bobs up almost exclusively when anti-poll tax, anti-lynching or enlightened social legislation which will benefit the Negro and other minorities, is proposed as measure for the whole national welfare.

DEC 9 1943

The Rankins thrive on state rights. Take for example Rep. Rankin's almost unvarying election returns. In 1942, when he was re-elected, just 7079 votes were cast for him. Contrast this meagre number with the census figure for Rankin's First district (Mississippi) of 263,367 people.

It doesn't take a pundit to see why these poll-taxers and reactionaries do not want a full, fair democratic election. They would be turned out of office with the dispatch evidenced by men late in disposing of the morning refuse.

DEC 26 1943

The 18 Republican senators who helped to make up the 44 opponents to the Green-Lucas bill had their special reason for wanting to see this bill defeated. They knew that some of the most progressive voters in the country are now in the army. Men who know the kind of world we are living in and the kind of measures needed to cope with it largely comprise our army. These men are not moved easily with sound, fury and gesturing. They are fact-minded.

Most of these young men saw that the very kind of reactionarianism that is now in evidence is the same kind of ineptness and mal political and social climate out of which the hard-hearted, inhumane social orders we are now fighting were born and nutured.

DEC 26 1943

The recent voting has been below normal in several states and Republican victories have resulted. Many Republicans, as a result, reason precisely, in this case, like the poll-taxers. Here is opportunism! "If we can win without the hampering influence of the progressive, militant soldier vote, it will be to our advantage to play ball with the southern contingent," is what they seem to have been saying. "We will get in on the states rights bandwagon!"

A good point has been raised by Lerner. He makes a very clear and forceful statement, then asks a devastating question. "When a soldier is drafted, it is the Federal government that drafts him. Imagine what would happen if he refused to take his place in the army on the ground of states rights?"

How well put! Lerner continues: "When a soldier is assigned to a unit, it is not the state that assigns him. When he is given a gun and instructions for using it, he cannot refuse to obey on the grounds that each state determines its own rules of shooting."

DEC 25 1943

Then it is clear that the real issue shou'd be: The soldiers have a right to vote or not. A mandate from the people NOW should be made demanding that the sacred right to vote be not denied to our men in service by politicians whose personal power and gain has distorted their perspective for the national good.

Both Races Attend One-Day Conference

Philadelphia, Pa.
Philadelphia Tribune

ATLANTA, Ga.—(ANP)—[illegible] solving the undemocratic problems peculiar to this section in a meeting in Atlanta, the Southern colored and white operative group of representative colored leaders forming the Continuation Committee, called for the organization of a southern regional council to insure prog-ed:

DEC 4 1943

another step in the direction of [illegible] tance of that declared that the south awaken and grant its citizens equal rights in manyit gathered to covenant together restricted fields and the accep-er in harmony and unanimity to one-day conference Wednesday at Atlanta University.

"We recognize fully that in the present crisis this covenant is as important as the earlier compacts of the forefathers, and that the framework within which we covenant together must comprehend a concept and a charter which guarantees equality of opportunity for all peoples. This means more specifically as bearing upon the burden of our present counseling that the Negro in the United States and in every region is entitled to and should have every guarantee of equal opportunity that every other citizen of the United States has within the framework of the American democratic system of government."

The southern regional council, as proposed by the committee, would be constituted of representatives of both races and of private and public groups.

Formation of a "national committee on race and regional development," constituted of representatives of all races, was also urged "since the crisis is not only southern but national, not only for whites, but for Negroes and other races as well." President Roosevelt was urged to appoint such a national committee.

The present membership of the Continuation Committee of the Durham and Atlanta Conferences constitutes the nucleus of the new council. The officers were authorized to take immediate steps for legal incorporation of the council, to appoint the necessary staff personnel to implement the program and to enlarge the present membership in order to make it fully representative of all the interests encompassed by the proposed program.

Drs. Charles Johnson, of Fisk University, and Howard W. Odum of the University of North Carolina, served as co-chairmen of the meeting.

Austin-Wadsworth Bill Condemned By AKA Lobbyist

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

OCT 2 1943

Negro Americans must learn to respond more quickly through letters and telegrams to those right thinking persons who seek to better their condition, Attorney Tomisina Johnson, legislative representative of the National Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs, AKA, told Atlantans Thursday evening at the Servicemen's Center.

Mrs. Johnson, here to confer with regional members of the council of which Mrs. L. D. Shivery is chairman, delivered a series of lectures to college groups Thursday and Friday.

OCT 2 1943

Pointing out how the council was successful in getting a badly needed amendment attached to the Austin-Wadsworth National Service Act, Mrs. Johnson disclosed that only ten letters were sent to the senators who supported the amendment, while literally thousands of letters poured in from Americans who vigorously protest against Negroes being given an equal opportunity under government.

She condemned the Austin-Wadsworth bill, which would draft labor in the way that the government now drafts men for the army, as being "particularly bad for Negroes." It is bad, she said, because it drafts labor and yet permits capital complete freedom."

The speaker urged her hearers to obtain copies of the Congressional Record, so that they could keep informed about any proposed legislation. When informed in ample time, she said, pressure can be exerted to have anti-discrimination clauses written into the legislation.

Appearing before the Morris Brown student body as Friday morning chapel speaker, Mrs. Johnson urged her youthful hearers to "think rebelliously." "If we are ever going to enjoy the Four Freedoms, Negroes must be accorded their constitutionally guaranteed privilege of universal suffrage," she said. "We must start thinking about it, doing something about it and gradually moving in the direction of complete democracy if we are ever to enjoy it," she warned.

The speaker was presented to Morris Brown students by members of the Gamma Gamma chapter. She was presented by Dean E. C.

Previously she had appeared before a group at the Atlanta University School of Social Work under the auspices of Kappa Omego chapter, and was guest of honor at a reception Thursday night tendered by members of Kappa Omega, Pi and Gamma Gamma chapters. The reception was held at the Service Men's Center on Hunter Street.

52b-1943

Poll Taxers And Northern GOPs Defeat The Measure To Give All Soldiers Vote

House Bloc Acts To Save Thousands Of Servicemen From Lost Of Votes

Argus
DEC 10 1943
St. Louis, Mo.

WASHINGTON, D. C. Dec. 7 — Charging that the poll-taxers brazenly disfranchised an entire generation of young men when the Senate threw out the Lucas-Green Soldiers Vote Bill, Mrs. Katherine Shryver, Executive Secretary of the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax said "Without the 18 Senate Republicans votes the 24 poll-taxers could not have deprived this generation of men of the right to vote in the most important election since the Civil War."

Meant Votes

As it stood the bill would have given votes to thousands of Negroes and whites residing in the South who have previously been denied that citizenship privilege.

The bill adopted in the Senate was sponsored by three Senators from poll tax states—Sens. McClelland of Arkansas; McKellar of Tennessee; and Eastland of Mississippi. It piously urges the states to establish machinery for service men balloting—but leaves the matter entirely in the hands of the state administrations.

Rep. John Rankin (D. Miss.) member of the House Privileges and Election Committee, scene of the next round in the struggle to determine whether the men in uniform will have a real chance to vote next November, is leader in the fight to nullify the service men's voting law passed by Congress in 1942. The fate of the soldiers' vote bill hinges on the outcome of a vote of this committee. Reps. Eugene Worley (Tex. D.) and Will Rogers (Cal. D.) two their defensive back-board con- young men promises to wage a fight against the Senate's "mockery" of soldier vote legislation.

DEC 10 1943

MAKE RACE HATE ILLEGAL

Defender Chicago, Ill

Race-hatreds, race violence, race pogroms, as conducted on a widespread scale in America today to the detriment of our war effort, are not federally illegal.

NOV 13 1943

In general, the public believes that the Ku Klux Klan, the Christian Front, and Coughlinites must be axis-inspired and certainly axis-sympathetic, because their anti-racial and anti-religious activities create disunity and harm our all-out war effort. But lacking evidence to show that these activities are in the paid service of our enemies, or that they are in violation of specific federal statutes—as sedition or sabotage—there is nothing the federal government agencies can do legally.

It is no federal crime to hate Negroes, Jews and Catholics.

It is no federal crime to say so.

It is no federal crime for a southern cracker (or anyone else) to tear the uniform off a Negro soldier, beat him, and then have him arrested by local authorities for trying to protect himself and Uncle Sam's property. (This happened in Mississippi just recently.)

Certainly the Department of Justice should be apprised of these activities.

But to stop there is fatal.

What is needed is public pressure and demand for enactment of federal statutes to outlaw race-baiting, stirring up race and religious hatreds, and brutality to soldiers regardless of race, creed or color.

While liberal and progressive groups should continue to send delegations to the attorney general to press for enforcement of the laws already on the statute books—a campaign is now in order to make Congress realize and act on the fact that persecutions of American citizens because of their race, creed or color is as much an atrocity when done in America by one's fellow citizens as when Jews are persecuted by Germans in Germany, Poland, Austria, or Rumania, or when our fliers are decapitated by the Japs in Tokyo.

Let's have some new federal laws to prohibit these "legal" activities which are undermining our war effort and giving aid and comfort to our enemies. Such laws respecting America's No. 1 problem are as much needed as the guns and tanks and ships which go unmade because of the lack of such legislation.

White Tennessee Editor Pushes Poll Tax Passage

Defender Chicago, Ill

NOV 13 1943

DEC 1 1943

WASHINGTON—Jennings Perry, editor of the Nashville Tennesseean, visiting here this week in the interest of a national [illegible] organization which seeks the repeal of poll taxes, is a soft-spoken disarming man who can talk for hours or for minutes with equal sincerity for his cause.

Since 1936 he has conducted a fight for the elimination of the poll tax law in Tennessee, meeting with success in the legislature only to have the state supreme court declare his victory invalid. His failure has failed to daunt him.

He says that at the close of the war the other nations are going to insist upon guaranteeing the right of the peoples of the conquered European countries to choose their own form of government. "That means we will see to it that the people of those countries have a full, free right to vote.

"By imposing a poll tax at home we prohibit our own citizens from voting unless they pay for that right. In the states where this law exists every effort is put forth to make it difficult for a citizen to buy his rights, with the result that in Tennessee only one out of five adults, regardless of color, do vote. In other states the ratio is much worse."

Perry's organization has the support of organized labor, the League of Women Voters, the NAACP and other similar groups. It prefers simple federal statute outlawing the voting tax although it does not oppose Senator O'Mahoney's proposal for a federal constitutional amendment.

What Perry really wants, however, is to get the issue to the United States Supreme Court as soon as possible for the first decision there on its constitutionality—a question that has divided the most able lawyers of the country. Explaining what happened to the issue in Tennessee Perry said the state's supreme court [illegible] that the legislature could not repeal its own acts (the Tennessee legislature repealed the law in 1870, and it was not re-enacted until 1890), was something new in English jurisprudence. But despite all his setbacks the editor is still determined to achieve eventual success.

DEC 1 1943

'Do Nothing' Policy Must Go

Kansas City Call

If the Civil Rights proposal now in committee is not adopted by the Missouri Constitutional Convention now in session, the fault will lie partly with those citizens throughout the state who profess to be in favor of it but are doing nothing about it.

DEC 17 1943

Opponents of the bill have been busy for weeks informing their delegates of their disapproval, while friends of the proposal have sat idly by postponing the writing of letters and telegrams urging the incorporation of the proposal in the new state constitution.

Everyone appreciates a good contest. No one likes a one-sided affair where one team runs away with its opponent, whether it be a baseball game, a horse race, a political campaign, or a fist fight.

DEC 17 1943

Even if the movement for a Civil Rights proposal is lost at this time, there are enough persons, white and black, in the state of Missouri who believe in the fundamental soundness of the measure to put up a good fight. In view of Missouri's past record on matters calling for fair play toward its Negro citizens, many friends of the Civil Rights proposal (No. 124) have adopted a "What's the use?" attitude. But they must not allow themselves to be defeated without trying to win. A few minutes time and a few postage stamps can make a real contest of it.

If every individual and every organization believing that Negro Missourians are entitled to service in places of public accommodation would write to the members of the Bill of Rights committee urging approval of Proposal No. 124, there would be such a pile of letters at the State Capitol that even the delegates from the "boot-heel" section of the state would have to sit up and take notice.

Kansas City, Mo.

DEC 17 1943

Congress Argues Constitutionality Of War Vote Bill

DEC 4 1943 Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Inferring that the next presidential elections might easily be set aside if congress relies upon the war powers bill to pass the soldier-vote bill, debate on which opened in the senate last week, opponents of the poll tax waiver undertook a subtle attempt to get that portion of the Green-Lucas measure eliminated.

Few doubted, however, that the measure would fail of passage since the chairmen of the national committees of both political parties have endorsed the bill under consideration.

Senator Robert Taft (R) of Ohio inquired what authority would the senate have to waive or suspend the poll tax in eight Southern States, and was told that the war powers bill authorizes the action, and then declared:

DANGEROUS THING

"I believe that would be a very dangerous thing. I do not believe we can, because of the war, warp or stretch the constitution or change its express provisions without a constitutional amendment."

Sen. James O. Eastland (D) of Mississippi followed him and said that "the measure is unconstitutional and its enactment will certainly cast grave doubt on the validity of the next presidential election, and upon the election of senators and representatives."

It was Sen. Millard Tydings (D) of Maryland who raised the poll tax question. He took occasion to say, however, that he was not opposed to permitting soldiers to vote but that he was in some doubt as to the constitutionality of the measure. He favored a constitutional amendment to end poll taxes.

SEES DIFFERENCE

Debate brought out also that Sen. Warren R. Austin (R) of Vermont who as a member of the senate judiciary committee opposed the anti-poll tax measure before his committee on grounds that it was unconstitutional, saw no reason for quibbling over the proposed soldier-vote bill for similar reasons. The difference, as he saw it, was one of defending this country.

When Sen. Moore twitted him on the subject, Austin did not feel "bound to justify" his position on the pending measure, which he considered to be "necessary or important for the preservation of the liberties of the people."

"Senators may argue the constitution to me all they please, but I shall never allow a quibble over a constitutional question to palsy my arm in the defense of my country," he retorted. "I am in the backing of my son and the sons of my colleagues, and all the people of this great country, in the gallant fight and great sacrifice they are making. The importance of the pending measure," he added, "overshadows the debate on the other (HR-7) question."

Washington Tribune

Washington, D. C

NOV 27 1943

Howard Urges Defeat of Poll Tax Bill in its Present Form

Perry W. Howard, member from Mississippi of the Republican National Committee, went on record this week as opposing the Poll Tax Bill in its present form in a two page letter to Senator William Langer.

"The bill is not worth the paper it is written on," Mr. Howard told the senator, in no uncertain terms, unless it is amended.

Mr. Howard contends that the bill should provide "that each active political party in a state shall have a representation in the matter of registration of voters so that each applicant will be protected in his right to register when he qualifies."

The letter which Mr. Howard wrote to Senator Langer read thus:

Dear Senator Langer:

Pursuant to the promise at the meeting of the Mu-So-Lit Club last evening, which you addressed so forcibly, effectively, and admirably, I am writing you in reference to the matter of the Poll Tax Bill.

I wish to most respectfully repeat what I said on last evening, and that is, that the bill as drawn is not worth the paper it is written on so far as it guarantees the colored man a vote in the South, and I base this statement upon the following reasons:

1. If one has paid his poll tax for forty years on time without breaking the continuity, he must register before he can vote.
2. The matter of registration is in the hands of the Circuit Court Clerk and there is no appeal from his decision to the courts when he denies one the right to register.
3. Under the understanding clause, or educational clause, this clerk can arbitrarily use any subterfuge to prevent one from registering, even though he is a graduate of a leading university of the land, a large tax payer, and one of unimpeachable character.

Therefore, the bill should be amended and should have the following amendment, to wit: Provided, however, that each active political party in a state shall have representation in the matter of registration of voters so that each applicant will be protected in his right to register when he qualifies."

This amendment, if passed, would reconstruct the voting system of the South and make suffrage universal, and at the same time it would maintain a high standard for qualified voters.

May I add that the colored people of the South are willing to pay the poll tax if they are given a chance to register, but they do not wish the farcial performances of paying poll tax but cannot register and vote.

Indeed it will be very unfortunate for my people in this country if either political party should succeed in passing this Poll Tax Bill as drawn for the reason that the party passing it will place upon the shoudlers of the American Negroes a political debt that it will take more than fifty years to pay when by the passage of the existing bill they are getting nothing in return. I challenge any American to the platform on this issue.

I represent the largest Negro-populated state in the Union, and I have given years of study to the laws of our state and the South generally, and I want to appeal to you and other members of this great body that you not hand us a gold brick and take up the time of the Congress with a farcial proceeding.

I wish to add here that the great leaders in Mississippi in the Constitutional Convention of 1890 promised that when the educational test was a prerequisite for voting that it would be fairly and impartially enforced and in proportion as the colored man measured up he would be permitted to vote. This was promised by such eminent men as Messrs. George and Walthall, but it has not been kept by their successors.

I represent the minority group and I am openly and not secretively asking the leaders of my state to co-operate with you in a matter of simple justice, and not a matter that is revolutionary.

I think the time has come that some one who knows the situation [illegible] speak out in frank[illegible] many white and [illegible] trying to do something in absolue ignorance of the results.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

PERRY W. HOWARD

NOV 23 1943

ARGUS

A STAB IN THE BACK

While the soldiers of the United States, black and white, were fighting and dying in Italy, in the Gilberts, and on Bougainville Island in the Southwest Pacific, they were stabbed in the back by the Senate of the United States. The action of that August body in scuttling the [illegible] making it impossible for the men and women in our armed forces wherever located around the world in the coming presidential election will go down in history as the most selfish and unpatriotic action ever taken by that body. By referring the whole matter to the states for handling, the Senate made it possible for the several states to strangle the soldier vote in a mass of red tape and discrimination which will almost totally nullify it.

Democrats, mostly from the "Deep South," bent on denying the right to vote to Negroes even though they are giving their lives for their country; and Republicans, whose fear of the soldiers' preference for President Roosevelt outweighed their patriotism and sense of fair play; and, in one instance at least, personal hatred of a senator for the President, formed the ungodly coalition which denied the right to vote to soldiers of their country who are fighting to save it.

By their actions this unholy coalition of seventeen Republicans, twenty-four Democrats and one Farmer Laboritemillion people who have struck a serious blow at American democracy. Not only did they deny the right to vote to 10,000,000 fighting men and women, but they confirmed the suspicion in the minds of millions of darker peoples throughout the world that America was merely giving lip service to the principles of democracy, and that, at heart, many of her people, including members of the Congress, did not believe in the democratic principles which they prate so loudly about. And for what reason have these senators dealt their country this wicked blow? Those from the block of irreconcilable southern states which still cling to the philosphy of the slave era in their attitude toward the Negro forgot their country and justice to the soldiers and voted to keep their unholy advantage over the Negro in their party, or personal hatred and fear of the President. For this partisan advantage or that personal hatred they stabbed their fighting men at the front in the back and shamed their country in the eyes of the world. Truly, politics makes strange bed-fellows.

St. Louis Star-Times puts it editorially:

They are men who put their own continuance in office above fundamental principle. They do not want to submit their tenure to the democratic test. For the sake of the electorate would reduce the size of the electorate, they are are quite willing to cheat even the heroes of a nation at war."

Assuredly, a day of reckoning will come to these selfish, unfaithful public servants. The men who slogged through the mud of Guadalcanal, or braved the hell of Tarawa and Salerno who have ploughed the seven seas in search of the enemy will not forget this treacherv. when they return we here at home should teach these little souls a lesson.

NOV 27 1943

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DEC 1 1943

NO FREE BALLOT FOR MEN IN THE ARMED SERVICES

Republicans Join the Southern Poll Tax Senators

The Senate, last Friday, voted down, 42-37, a bill that extended the absentee voting privilege to eleven Republican people who are with the armed forces.

The upper house adopted instead a bill which leaves the matter of soldier voting up to the several States. This handed a victory for States' rights, and for the poll which opposed a free ballot for colored soldiers.

Aiding the sixteen "pole cat" Senators to kill the vote were six other Democrats and eighteen Republicans, constituting an anti-Roosevelt crowd. These Republicans, for the most part, are from States where the colored vote is small and scattered.

If the Democrats had united, or if the Republicans had been loyal Roosevelt Democrats the bill would have passed. A division shows 25 Democrats and 12 Republicans favoring the soldier vote; 22 Democrats and 18 Republicans against it.

Senator Lucas (D., Ill.), manager of the bill, called the rejection of it the "hardest blow ever struck at the rights of a soldier in time of war."

Republican leadership, which has chosen this hook-up with the Administration, harms itself more than it hurts the President.

Colored voters in the North, who have had a growing confidence in the Republican party, are profoundly shocked. Unless this unholy alliance with the poll tax South is dissolved the party abandons its policy of obstructing national progress, Mr. Roosevelt is going back to the White House in 1944, and the ballots of colored people are going to help do the job.

52b-1943

Senate Ban on Discrimination Deals Death Blow to Educational Bill

Washington Tribune

Washington, D. C.

The Senate late Wednesday, on motion of Senator Robert Taft, (R. Ohio) blocked passage of the 300 million dollar public educational bill following adoption by the Senate of an amendment banning discrimination because of race, creed or color in the use of educational funds.

The amendment banning discrimination was bitterly opposed by Southern Democrats, and, according to Senator Elbert Thomas (D.) of Utah, co-sponsor of the bill, was opposed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the American Teachers Association (teachers of Negro children).

Following adoption of the amendment by a vote of 40 to 37, the Senate, on motion of Senator Taft voted 53 to 26 to recommit the bill to the committee where its chances of ever emerging are very doubtful.

The amendment banning discrimination was offered by Senator William Langer (R.) of North Dakota. It provided against discrimination in the use of the Federal grants which the bill would have given the State educational systems and in the use of the State educational funds and grants would supplement.

The bill proposed 200 million dollars in Federal educational school grants to the States during the war period and additional permanent grants of 100 million dollars.

The money was to be used to assist in raising and equalizing the salaries of school teachers.

In support of the bill, Senator Langer told the Senate that the South is asking for the money so it can discriminate more and more against the poor children of the South. In one State, he said, $61.20 a year is spent for the education of a white child, and $12.62 for a Negro.

Southern Democrats were supporting the bill until the amendment banning discrimination was adopted. As a matter of fact, Senator Lister Hill, of Alabama, was co-author of the bill with Senator Thomas. When the amendment was adopted, Southern Democrats joined with Northern opponents of the measure to recommit it.

Senator Alben W. Barkley, majority leader of the Senate, explained his vote against the non - discrimination amendment thusly:

"I voted against the Langer amendment because I was unwilling to play politics with education and I did not want to encumber it with an amendment that might endanger its passage.

"The amendment was adopted by a combination of those opposed to the bill and those whose minds constantly dwell on the next election. To this group may be added some who were sincerely fearful that there might be some discrimination if the amendment were not adopted."

Labor Is Raising Its Voice for Child Care

New York, N. Y

Amsterdam News

AUG 27 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 26 (FP).—To date there are no signs that the defeatist crew led by Sen. Burton K. Wheeler (D., Mont.) which is hollering loudly against WMC's latest and qualified proposal to draft fathers Oct. 1, is doing anything about demanding more nurseries and child care centers so more women can go into industry. If those men are so anxious to protect women and children against hardship, why don't they back the Thomas child care bill, S 1130, or introduce new and better legislation calling for more ample child care funds?

Before adjourning, Congress authorized $200,000,000 for Lanham act funds, but appropriated only $50,000,000, of which $30,000,000 will go to other community services and $20,000,000 to child care centers and pre-school nurseries.

Main impetus for all successful community action to get Lanham act funds for child care is coming from the labor movement. Outstanding examples are Los Angele and Wayne County, Michigan. A joint CIO-AFL committee in Detroit has changed the picture there from one in which WPA nurseries had half-empty units because they were reluctant to publicize their existence, to thriving nurseries and centers for after-school care. A campaign of posters and civic meetings did it.

Both Wayne County and Los Angeles have made a beginning, too, in nurseries with 24-hour care, each having one such nursery operating. This means that mothers who have to be at work in war plants at 7 A. M. can take their children there at 6 A. M. and those working night shifts can have care for their children at night, bringing them home in the morning.

According to the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, made up of Negro college women, Negro children are discriminated against by the Office of Education and Children's Bureau, through state departments of education and welfare. For this reason executive secretary Thomasina Johnson of the sorority's council on public affairs, testified against the Thomas bill, saying she thought administration of Lanham act funds by the Federal Works Agency more fair to Negroes than the groups who would administer the Thomas bill funds.

Legislators' Future Hang In Balance

78th Congress Loaded With Various Pieces On the Negro's Interest

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON (ANP) — Congress reconvened Wednesday following a two months' vacation that to many was no vacation at all, but rather time out to explain to the folks back home why they voted as they did on various pieces of important legislation which came before the 78th Congress. Some actually sought instructions as to what they ought to do in the remaining part of the session.

Guiding Force

In this interim many legislators were firmly apprised that unless they do right, their political fortunes in the 1944 congressional elections will indeed be in untenable position.

Congress will find work on its hands in an abundance. Beside the broad issues which unquestionably affect all Americans, such as prices, manpower and taxes, Negroes will still find themselves struggling to get through certain pieces of legislation.

Anti-Poll-Tax Bill

The anti-poll tax bill which rode through the House in record time, is languishing in a sub-committee of the judiciary committee of the Senate. It was good organization inside and out of Congress that brought the Marcantonio bill through so quickly. It is going to take equal skill and floor management to accomplish the same results in the upper chamber — and a filibuster is almost assured.

Anti-Lynch Bill

The anti-lynch bill has not had the play it had in previous years. It's in there, however, resting in committee and waiting for the development of sufficient public pressure to move it along. The fight here is going to be hard, first because there has been a tapering off in lynching this year, and second because the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been investigating and the Justice department has been getting indictments against lynch-law suspects. Convictions, of course, are another matter.

In connection with the Gavagan bill to outlaw lynching, the question will probably arise as to whether or not the measure may be pushed in view of the plan of the sponsor to leave the House of Representatives for a position on the Supreme Court bench of New York state. He was nominated for the 14-year term by the Democrats last month, and the following night the Republicans endorsed him, all of which assures him of election.

Army Jim Crow

Last spring Sen. Sheridan Downey, California Republican, introduced a resolution calling for the establishment of a special committee to investigate charges of alleged discrimination in the armed forces. This resolution has not yet been acted upon by the Senate military committee.

Labor Draft Bill Unwise

Chicago, Ill

Bee (Magazine Section)

OCT 3 - 1943

THE Austin-Wadsworth Bill for the drafting of labor of both sexes between the ages of 18 to 50 for women and 18 to 65 for men to effectively cope with war industry needs should be defeated overwhelmingly.

On the surface it presents itself as a patriotic labor enforcement act. But is it? The government may decide where, when and under what conditions we must work. That kind of "patrioitism" is the kind we are supposed to be fighting again. It is irrevocable and mandatory, not unlike the enforced labor conditions in the totalitarian nations.

OCT 3 - 1943

Negroes have particular objections quite aside from the general objections cited. Negroes who vote in the North if removed to the South would be denied the franchise in the South. In addition to becoming politically impotent, the Negroes thus removed, would face social and cultural restrictions which are not only revolting but constrict the horizons of otherwise useful and creative citizens.

OCT 3 1943

Reactionary forces in America at the moment are wrapping the flag around themselves and waving the banner of the draft labor bill. They are "interested" in facilitating production, so they allege.

But what are the facts? They are the same group that goes into hiding when fly and without discrimination, before recompetent Negro and other minorities are sorting to any form of enforced labor. shunted out of the lucrative employment picture. They see in this seemingly innocuous "patriotic" bill a chance to forge the final links in the chains with which they propose to yoke on labor and its unions.

Conservatively, we say, give all of our labor resources a chance to function, fair-

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

Assails PM's Quoting Mrs. Bethune

Poll Taxes Threaten to Bolt Party

Daily Worker
New York, N.

By Elizabeth Donahue
PM's Bureau

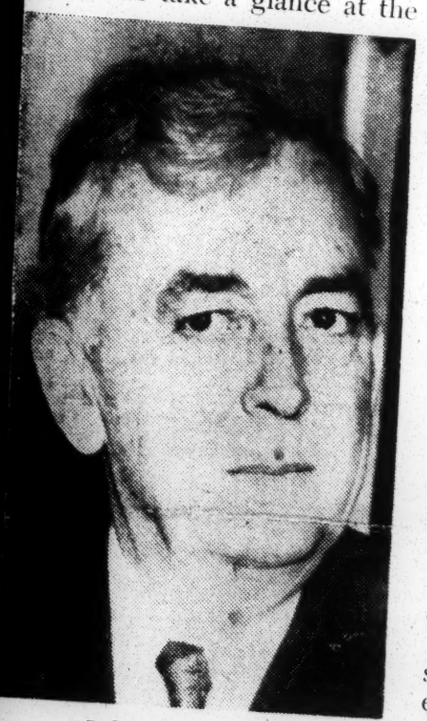
DEC 8 1943

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—PM's stories in support of votes of soldiers have provoked Rep. John Elliott Rankin (R., Miss.) into one of his familiar tirades against the Jews and Negroes.

In a speech in the House yesterday Rankin denounced PM for quoting a statement by "a Negro woman named Mary McLeod Bethune." Mrs. Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women, has assailed Republicans and poll tax Senators for killing the Senate bill to set up a Federal ballot commission to supervise service men's voting. The Senate put the matter up to the states.

Then Rankin shouted:

"Let's take a glance at the letters and telegrams from New York and Brooklyn."



John E. Rankin

He read off the names of some of the people who had written him in favor of the Lucas-Green-Worley bill providing full voting rights for service men.

The names included Reisman, Liebowitz, Lowenstein, Siegal and others. He spelled them out to emphasize the Jewish angle.

Rankin's speech brought another young Congressman into the fold of the outspoken supporters of service men's voting privileges.

Rep. Jerry Voorhis (D., Cal.) took the floor and declared:

"I can no longer remain silent. Any man who is good enough to fight is good enough to vote, and we ought to give him that right."

Voorhis added that the bill which passed the Senate, leaving the voting rights in the hands of the states, "is a meaningless evasion of the issue."

Bender to Work for Soldier Vote

DEC 8 1943

Voorhis' statement was echoed by Rep. George Bender (D., O.), who said "I shall do everything in my power to obtain passage of a workable soldier's vote bill based directly on a Federal ballot."

Meanwhile the Southern Democratic Senators, chafing under public criticism of their stand against the Green-Lucas bill, threatened to split the Democratic ranks and bolt their party.

Sen. Harry F. Byrd (D., Va.), famous for his mild manners in the Senate, delivered a scathing attack on Sen. Joseph Guffey (D., Pa.) for charging that he had been party to an "unholy alliance" against the soldier's vote bill.

Byrd, reacting to a newspaper campaign against him in Virginia, declared:

"Never in my 10 years of service in the Senate has the provocation been as great as in this instance."

Byrd Violates Senate Amenities

The Virginian claimed that Guffey's statement is being photostated for distribution to soldiers overseas. Violating the usual Senate amenities, Byrd referred frequently to "Guffey," and tagged him a "pouter pigeon." "The sooner Guffey resigns from the chairmanship of the Senate (Democratic) Campaign Committee, the better for the Democratic Party," Byrd warned.

Sen. Joseph Bailey (D., N. C.) who was in on the kill when the Senate defeated the Green-Lucas bill, also hastened to cover his tracks.

In a flowery speech, Bailey exhorted his Southern colleagues to bolt the party. Defiantly Bailey, surrounded by admiring Southern colleagues, declared:

"We are Southern Senators and we have no apologies and no shame and no fear. By the eternal Gods, sir," he said, "shall we be detrayed in the house of our fathers? We shall find a party which honors us."

The North Carolinian threatened that "they might drive us out but they would never again elect a President of the United States on the Democratic ticket. We can form a Southern Democratic Party and vote as we please and we can hold the balance of power in this country."

DEC 8

Bailey Denounces Willkie

Addressing the Republicans on the subject of Willkie, Bailey added:

"We might go far, but never far enough to follow a Presidential candidate who accused us of passing the Smith-Connally (anti-strike) bill because we are from the South."

While Southerners in both Houses raved, the meaningless Senate-approved measure leaving service men's voting rights up to the states—whose red tape would block most service men from voting—moved from the Senate to the House Elections Committee. For several days it has been in the hands of legislative clerks, who have been trying to straighten out some amendments which got in by mistake.

The moment the bill reached the House, Rankin made a vain attempt to prevent it from reaching the proper committee. He lost a motion to have the House take the bill up and pass it without further consideration.

DEC 8 1943

Meanwhile, the Railway Labor Executives Assn., claiming to speak for more than a million and a quarter railroad workers, declared in a letter to all Senators and Representatives that "our men are good enough to die; they are good enough to vote." It said any Congressman who voted, or will vote, to disfranchise service men "should examinine his own conscience and capacity to serve his country" in either Chamber. CIO President Philip Murray also denounced the Senate's action.

Help Soldiers Get Vote

PM
New York, N. Y.

There's a chance that the soldiers' vote bill, shelved by the Senate, may be saved by the House of Representatives. Right now, the issue is up to the House Privileges and Elections Committee, which has been called on to approve the Senate's action in shelving the Administration plan for a Federal ballot commission to supervise soldier votes.

PM readers are urged to write or wire any or all of the members of this Committee, asking them to join with Rep. Eugene Worley (D., Tex.), the chairman, in his plan to wage an uncompromising battle against the Senate's "mockery" of soldier vote legislation.

Members of the Committee, who may be reached at the House Office Building, Washington, D. C., are:

Rep. Eugene Worley (D., Tex.)
Rep. John E. Rankin (D., Miss.)
Rep. C. Bonner (D., N. C.)
Rep. Carter Manasco (D., Ala.)
Rep. John S. Gibson (D., Ga.)
Rep. Arthur G. Klein (D., N. Y.)
Rep. Daniel K. Koch (D., Pa.)
Rep. Ralph A. Gamble (R., N.Y.)
Rep. Karl M. Le Compte (R., Ia.)
Rep. Hal Ellsworth (R., Ore.)
Rep. Charles W. Vursell (R., Ill.)
Rep. Leon Gavin (R., Pa.)

DEC 8 1943

Here Are Your Enemies Of Civil Rights Bill

DEC 7 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

These are the men who voted to kill Federal soldier-vote legislation, and thereby to prevent millions of American fighting men from casting their ballots next November:

Democrats

Andrews (Tenn.)
Bailey (N.C.)
Bankhead (Ala.)
Biblo (Miss.)
Byrd (Va.)
Caraway (Ark.)
Clark (Mo.)
Eastland (Miss.)
Ellender (La.)
Gerry (Ala.)
Hill (Ala.)
Maybank (S.C.)
McCarran (Nev.)
McClellan (Ark.)
McKellar (Tenn.)
O'Daniel (Tex.)
Overton (La.)
Russell (Ga.)
Scrugham (Nev.)
Smith (S.C.)
Stewart (Tenn.)
Tydings (Md.)

Democrats

Walsh (N.J.)
Walsh (Mass.)

Republicans

Buck (Del.)
Butler (Neb.)
Capper (Kans.)
Danaher (Conn.)
Hawkes (N.J.)
Holman (Ore.)
Milliken (Colo.)
Moore (Okla.)
Nye (N.D.)
Reed (Kans.)
Revercomb (W.Va.)
Thomas (Idaho).
Tobey (N.H.)
Wherry (Neb.)
White (Maine)
Willis (Ind.)
Robertson (Wyo.)
Shipstead (Minn.)

Doxey A. Wilkerson Urged by

Calling for the ... Civil Rights Bill, H.R. ... gation of the ... necessityset-up in the ... the worldhe urged the members of ... y in itsclub and g... to mobilize for ... racy totle passage of the Civil Rights ...tries ofBill which would make it unlaw-...kerson,ful to discriminate against any ...rd Uni-one in a public place.

...nal di- In the discussion that followed, ...C. Dis-members of the club, decided to ...ty, ad-have a broadcast on the bill, to ...ouglassget thousands of postcards sent ...arty ofto the House District Committee ...egularwhich now has the bill pigeon-holed and ask them to report the Negro bill out favorably, and to call a conference of organizations in the Washington area not already active in the people of Washington are now ready to make their fullest contri-Midcity ... for action on the

The next meeting of the club will be on Wednesday, December ..., at 8:30 p.m. at Moses Home, 1421 T Street, Northwest.

DEC 7 1943

52b-1943

Va. Postmen Ask Law To Stop Juggling Civil Service Lists

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

AUG 14 1943

PORTSMOUTH—A request for amendments to the U. S. Civil Service law to prohibit juggling in lists of civil service eligibles by local appointing officers constituted the first resolution passed by the Virginia State Association of Letter Carriers meeting in its 20th annual session in Portsmouth on August 1 at the USO Club.

Another resolution, citing frequent use of "politics" and "prejudice" in local civil service appointments, requested that civil service eligibiilty lists be made public and that copies of these lists be furnished to officers of employee groups.

Business of the convention was streamlined and crowded into sessions lasting only through one action-packed day. About 150 delegates attended. The Association will meet next year in Newport News on Labor Day.

Recommendations and resolutions endorsed by the association are being sent to officers of the national association.

These resolutions include: (1) Endorsement of the principle of longevity pay for postal employees. (2) Amendment to present law to provide for increased annuity to such employees or refunds of all deductions after thirty years or optional age with interest on retirement or separation from the service.

(3) Endorsement of a 20 per cent increase in annuities of retired carriers ;and opposition to any change in the method of computation whereby those who had the best jobs and highest pay will get larger allowance when retired.

APPEALS COURT

(4) Endorsement of the principle of management-employee committee for the postal service with all of its democratic implications; and endorsement of an appeal for an act establishing a U. S. Civil Service Court of Appeals with employees adequately represented by representatives of their own choice.

(5) That legislation be urged, by referendum if necessary, to have emergency carriers who are netering the postal service in large numbers, given membership in the National Association of Letter carriers who are entering the the duration at least.

ASK PROMOTIONS

President M. E. Diggs, of Norfolk, in his report to the convention stated: "We have asked model working conditions, fair wage standards, real security of jobs, proper recognition of seniority, reasonable number of promotions and longevity. Until our government, administrative and legislative, is model in its treatment of its own employees it can not, with good grace, insist on private employers and others doing any better."

Among the national officers attending the convention were Charles S. Fleming, president of the board of directors, and James K. Langan, member of the board of trustees.

The Virginia State Association elected officers as follows: James S. Christian, of Richmond, president; Marcelleus Heath, Petersburg, vice president; Charles H. Wilson, of Suffolk, secretary; H. O. Harrison, Hopewell, treasurer; John W. Lee, Newport News, delegate at large.

Elected to the executive board were Moses F. Gibson, of Portsmouth; P. C. Shirley, of Staunton, and R. H. Tate of Norfolk.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Virginia State Association, meeting jointly with the parent body, elected the following officers:

Mrs. Gladys Storrs, of Richmond, reelected president; Mrs Maud Brin[illegible] Portsmouth, vice president; Mrs. [illegible]cCoy, Norfolk, reelected secretary; Mrs. Mary Estes, Suffolk, reelected treasurer; Mrs. Florence Reid, Norfolk, chaplain; and Mrs. Eva D. Tate, Norfolk, district organizer.

Perry Howard Would Amend Poll Tax Bill

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

DEC 4 1943

Says Measure Will Not Assure Race Voting Privilege

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The question of Federal regulation of the entire voting process where Federal offices are at stake was interjected last Friday into the discussion of pending legislation for the abolition of the poll tax as a prequisite to voting.

Perry W. Howard, Republican national committeeman for Mississippi, raised the question in a letter written to Senator William Langer, Republican, of North Datkota.

The Howard letter, however, was read on the floor of the Senate by Senator Theodore G. (The Man) Bilbo, Democrat of Mississippi, who used it as an argument against passage of the Marcantonio bill.

HOWARD ASKED AMENDMENT

Specifically, Howard asked Senator Langer to offer an amendment which would require each major political party to be represented at the registration of voters.

To buttress his request he referred to the arbitrary action of registration officials in southern States, who adopt various pretexts for refusing to register colored persons who are qualified otherwise to vote.

Howard attacked the Marcantonio bill in its present form as "not worth the paper it is written on so far as it guarantees the colored man a vote in the south."

SUPPORTS CONTENTION

To support this contention, he said:

"If one has paid his poll tax for forty years on time without breaking the continuity he must register before he can vote.

"The matter of registration is in the hands of the circuit court clerk and there is no appeal from his decision to the courts when he denies one the right to register.

"Under the understanding clause (the ability to interpret the provisions of the Constitution —State or Federal) or educational clause, this clerk can arbitrarily use any subterfuge to prevent one from registering, even though he is a graduate of a leading university of the land, a large taxpayer, and one of unimpeachable character."

WOULD OBLIGATE VOTERS

Howard added that it would be unfortunate for colored people if either political party succeeded in passing the Marcantonio bill as drawn, because it would obligate colored voters to the responsible party for its passage "when they are getting nothing in return."

The Marcantonio bill slept peaceably last week without any senator moving its consideration. This was the second week that has elapsed since a motion for its consideration became in order.

Opponents of the measure have threatened a filibuster, and its supporters have shown an unwillingness to meet the threat.

STRATEGY MEETING

A scheduled conference to plan strategy on bill was postponed Wednesday of last week when Sen. Frederick Van Nuys (D) of Indiana found himself trying to clarify the liquor situation as chairman of a senate sub-committee studying the matter.

Meanwhile, the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax announced through its secretary, Catherine Shryver, that an emergency meeting of the executive conference had been called for Wednesday, December 8, at which 125 supporters from various parts of the country were to attend.

The meeting was called for the purpose of mobilizing all potential aid in the states for cloture and for a final vote on the legislation. "We want to step up the public angle," Mrs. Shryver stated.

"We have had much work done by the organizations. We're going to roll up our sleeves in the morning, and lobby in the afternoon."

Solicitor Opposes Measure To Ban Smears From Mails

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

NOV 27 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Opposing a bill which would ban race hatred literature from the mails, Vincent M. Miles, chief solicitor of the Post Office department, last week, told the House Post Office committee that there is not as much racial prejudice as people believe.

In agreeing with Postmaster General Frank Walker that the time of war danger was being exaggerated, Miles said that this measure would cause more racial prejudice.

EXHIBITS SUBMITTED

He made his statement in face of exhibits submitted to the committee by witnesses from church, labor, liberal, Jewish and Negro groups.

Postmaster General Walker had already reported that there is no present need for the enactment of this legislature" and objected to the bill on the ground of administration difficulties.

Miles was the only witness during hearings last week to oppose the bill. Most of the leading liberal, Jewish and labor groups testifying for the bill warned that the mailed attacks on Catholics, Jews and Negroes were dividing the nation in time of war.

"DESTROYING UNIT"

Rep. Samuel Dickstein (D.,N.Y.), author of one of the pending bills to ban hatred literature from the mails, declared the Post Office department is being used by the

Asks "Yes" Vote On N. J. Constitution

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

OCT 30 1943

Urban League Secretary Urges Voters to Act

NEWARK, N. J.—An appeal is made to the citizens of New Jersey to vote "Yes" on a constitutional convention to abolish discriminations printed at the top of the ballot only on the ground of religion

RACE DISCRIMINATION

"Today this 99-year-old constitution prohibits discriminations against Negroes as human beings endowed with the 'certain natural and inalienable rights' granted by free men.

"New Jersey's present state constitution was adopted 33 years before the Emancipation Proclamation. It declares that "all men are by nature free and independent," but all states at that time recognized Negro slavery as legal, and the laws of New Jersey, as of other states, did not recognize Negroes as human beings endowed by nature free and independent, as legal, and none in opposition to the bill, said more than that will be used in the election of November 2.

The question to be voted on is whether the legislature that meets in January shall sit as a constitutional convention and write a new constitution to be submitted to the people for approval or dejection at the election next year.

In his appeal for a "Yes" vote on the question Mr. Lett says:

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"Leaders to vote "Yes" on a constitutional convention to abolish

All prohibitions of discrimination on account of race or sex are laws passed by the legislature, which may be repealed at any time.

"Racial equality in New Jersey cannot be considered as safely and permanently established until it is included in the constitution. Our right to work, to play, to be educated, to teach, and to live on the same favorable terms as other citizens can be best protected by a guarantee against racial discrimination written into the constitution, which is the foundation of government.

"The only anti-racial laws we have in New Jersey are those prohibiting discrimination between colored and white persons by insurance companies, exclusion of children from school because of race or nationality, propaganda inciting racial hatred, and asserting the equal rights for all persons, regardless of race or color, to the same accommodations, facilities and privileges in places of amusement, hotels, restaurants, inns, taverns, etc.

"Only this year the legislature refused to pass a bill that would have given all persons the same right to qualify for teaching, and to be employed as teachers without discrimination on account of color, race or religion."

Missourians Push Civil Rights Bill

Kansas City Call

Kansas City, Mo.

BY WILLIE BEA HARMON

JEFFERSON CITY. — A call for an end to "second class citizenship at first class prices" for Negroes in Missouri was made before eight members of the Bill of Rights committee of the constitutional convention, Nov. 23 as 14 prominent citizens asked that a civil rights proposal become a part of the state constitution.

Not a single person appeared in opposition to the proposed bill known as the civil rights bill or Proposal 124, as 200 colored and white spectators watched the proceedings from the floor of the house. The meeting had to be moved from the regular senate committee rooms because of the large crowd.

Copies of the proposal, which is sponsored by Jacob L. Babler and Richard Fitzgibbon, St. Louis delegates, were handed to all spectators, as the committee hearing began.

The bill reads:

Resolved that the following section shall become a part of Article 11 of the Constitution of Missouri:

That no person, natural or corporate, shall make any distinction, discrimination or restriction on account of race, color or creed, or for any reason not sanctioned by law and not applicable alike to persons generally, in the admission of any person to, or the accommodation or service of any person in any place of public accommodation.

The committee of six men and two women with P. M. Marr of Milan, Mo., as chairman listened intently for two hours to comment and suggestions on the measure.

BILL FOR FUTURE

Richard Fitzgibbon, co-author of the proposal, made the introductory speech of the afternoon underneath the words: "The welfare of the people is the supreme law of the land."

Said Fitzgibbon: "We introduced this proposal which is a rather touchy question and you might wonder about my interest in the matter. I represent a district in St. Louis which is 80 per cent Negro. The Negro has made great contributions in the theaters of war and should be accorded the same rights as any other American citizen. You gentlemen of this constitutional committee are writing the constitution of the future. Think of the future of Missouri and the future of America. I am sure you will consider this bill favorably."

KENSWIL SPEAKS

Edwin Kenswil, only Negro member of the Missouri legislature, made the second plea of the afternoon.

Pointing out that the Negro in Missouri must eat with money in his pocket, Kenswil said that "we stand together to make Missouri a better place in which to live." Kenswil was followed by Sherman D. Scruggs, president of Lincoln university.

"Give the Negro the chance to contribute to society and to help make this country the great nation the world thinks it is," stated Dr. Scruggs. "You have never been black, you members of this committee, and you don't know what it means to be black. But imagine that you had been born black. If you had been, you would permit this bill to reach the floor of the house."

ST. LOUISANS APPEAL

Four white citizens from St. Louis made appeals in behalf of the bill. Kenneth Anthony, a representative from the Federation of National Civil Liberties, told members of the committee that "Indeed, Hitler has learned a great deal from America's mistreatment of the Negro and has applied it to the Jew. Paul Subrey, Eden Theological student, and Lou Kimmell, a representative of the Electrical Workers union, CIO, made a similar appeal to the committee.

Vitrolic was R. N. Dutton, a representative from the Metropolitan Church Federation of St. Louis. He said: "We talk of four freedoms abroad, and the pity of it all is that we haven't four freedoms at home. The folly of our actions is told around the world in headlines by our enemies. We of the Federation go on record as opposing any mandatory discrimination."

Quoting the words of the cornerstone of the Missouri capitol building, 'Where there is no vision the people perish,' Dutton concluded his remarks.

From Kansas City came Mrs. Mila Banks, a representative of the N.A.A.C.P. Mrs. Banks was the last speaker of the afternoon and made a quiet, but determined plea for acceptance of the bill.

Other persons speaking were: R. C. Minor, Lorenzo Green of Lincoln university; Atty. Ellis Outlaw and Joseph L. McLemore of St. Louis; the Rev. James Bracy, pastor of the First Baptist church, St. Louis; Mrs. E. C. Grady, representative from the Women's clubs of St. Louis.

CONFIDENT OF BILL

Delegates Fitzgibbon and Babler were complimented by the chairman of the civil rights committee, P. M. Marr, who stated that the presentation of the speakers had been "the best since the convention opened."

So confident was he, that the bill would come out of the committee, Richard Fitzgibbon, one of the sponsors told reporters that he would argue the civil rights question on the floor of the house in February. However, Fitzgibbon stated that data and specific incidents of discrimination should be sent to his office. He stressed, too, the necessity of letters.

"If the citizens of the state of Missouri would write letters to us, and to the constitutional convention, the help would be immeasurable."

According to Mr. Fitzgibbon, the proposal will not reach the argumentative stage before February.

The hearing Tuesday was the final one before presentation next year.

Members of the Bill of Rights committee are P. M. Marr, chairman, Milan, Mo.; Israel A. Smith, Independence; Rex. Moore, Trenton; A. S. Phillips, St. Louis; Mrs C. P. Damron, Farmington; Elroy C. Keher, Marthasville; Thomas C. Hennings, St. Louis; and Mrs Carl Crome. Clinton.

A Damnable Bill

DEC 4 - 1943

Sam Hobbs, Alabama's gift to the House of Representatives, has introduced a bill, hearings on which are now under way, to give police throughout the nation the right to disobey the law, and that failure on their part to observe the requirements of law, should not react in favor of a man whom they may place under arrest. Washington Tribune

It is the most damnable piece of legislation ever introduced, and is almost a parallel to the Dred Scott decision. Washington, D. C.

What Hobbs is seeking to do is to take the sting out of the recent decision of the Supreme Court in the now famous McNabb case.

In that case, involving three Tennessee moonshiners, the Court held that their confessions were inadmissable as evidence because the men had not been arraigned promptly as required by law.

As a result of the ruling, evidence in five local cases in District courts was thrown out, because confessions were obtained prior to arraignment, which was not promptly performed.

What has aroused the ire of Hobbs is that one Negro accused of raping a white girl, was freed under the McNabb ruling, because the only evidence the police had against him was his confession, obtained prior to arraignment. The defendant in the case claimed the confession was given under duress, and retracted it.

DEC 4 - 1943

It was this very danger which the Supreme Court had in mind, when it ruled in favor of the moonshiners, having found that their confessions, too, were obtained under duress.

DEC 4 - 1943

We are glad to see that the Washington Bar Association has taken an active part in opposing this diabolical bill. Thurman L. Dodson, and Richard Atkinson, representing the local and national bar associations, appeared before the House Committee, holding hearings, in opposition to the bill.

Their contentions were buttressed by the testimony of the Railway Labor Executives' Association (white), which has more than a million members.

This organization told the committee that the only reason police want a man held incommunicado is to extort confessions by methods which may or may not be proveable, particularly if the witness is an inexperienced or ignorant and weak man, woman or youth.

DEC 4 - 19

Down in Alabama where Hobbs comes from, the police are so ignorant and have such a lack of knowledge of scientific police methods of crime detection, that the only way they can obtain a conviction is by extorting confessions, and in the case of Negroes, they don't even wait to extort confessions, but simply turn them over to white mobs for a lynching.

We hope that other Negroes and Negro organizations, will see the danger in this bill, and will make their objections known. This bill can be defeated, but it will take a strong lobby, both on the part of labor groups as well as the Negro people, for it is these two groups who will suffer most if this piece of legislation is enacted into

52b-1943

Senate 'Gangs Up' To Kill Education Bill

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa
OCT 30 1943

Taft, Langer, Barbour and Southern Poll Tax Solons Engage in Maneuver to Check Appropriation Which Would Have Provided Federal Aid for Dixie Schools

WASHINGTON—(Courier Washington Bureau—Last week by a vote of 53 to 26, with 17 Senators not voting, the United States Senate killed for all practical purposes any chance of the passage in this session of legislation which would have brought some 15 million dollars of federal funds to the use of Negro schools in Southern States.

Equal villains in the piece—marked by demagogy and hypocrisy seldom equalled even on the floor of the Senate, were Senators Taft, Langer and Barbour, and Poll Tax Senators from the South.

SENATOR TAFT LED OPPOSITION

The bill, as reported to the Senate by the Committee on Education and Labor, provided for the appropriation of two hundred million dollars by the Federal government for aid to the states for public education. Under the terms of the bill Southern states would have to divide the Federal funds equally between Negro and white schools, on the basis of school attendance.

When the bill came to the floor it was opposed by a minority led by Senator Robert Taft (R.-Ohio), who opposed the measure on the principle that education was not a function of the Federal government.

The bill, as reported by the committee, had the support of a majority of the Democratic Senators, including the Southern Senators, who had agreed not to oppose the provision for equitable distribution of the Federal monies. The bill was also supported by the NAACP and Negro teacher organizations.

AMENDMENT USED TO KILL THE BILL

Near the close of a bitter debate on the bill, Senator William Langer (R.-N. D.) introduced an amendment providing not only that Southern states must make equal distribution of Federal funds between Negro and white schools, but that in order to be eligible for these funds they must also agree to equalize state funds between Negro and white schools.

Senator Elbert Thomas (D.-Utah), author of the bill, pointed out that the passage of this amendment would mean killing the bill, since Southern Senators would not vote for the bill amended in this fashion. Declaring that "the great Negro group which this amendment is supposed to help" are opposed to the amendment, the Utah Senator read a telegram from Walter White, secretary of the NAACP opposing the Langer amendment.

CLAIMED BROWN FOR AMENDMENT

Countering the telegram of Walter White, Senator Bridges (R.-New Hampshire) stated that he had a memorandum from the National Negro council (the organization of Mr. Edgar Brown), "said to represent more than four million Negroes," favoring the Langer amendment.

Said Senator Hill (D.-Ala.), "No Senator can vote for this amendment and then go back to the Negroes in his state and say to them that he voted for the amendment in an effort to serve them. A vote for this amendment would be a distinct disservice to the Negroes of this country and to any other minority group; a vote for this amendment would be a vote against the best interests of the Negroes because we know that if this amendment goes on the bill, it will seriously jeopardize the bill and will possibly defeat its passage."

Also opposing tacking on the Langer amendment because it would endanger passage of the bill were Senators Guffey (D.-Pa.), and Barkley (D-Ky.).

TAFT ADMITS PURPOSE

The Langer amendment was passed by a vote of 40 to 37. Immediately after the passage of the amendment Senator Taft made a motion to recommit the bill, which was passed 53 to 26, thus killing the measure.

The Ohio Senator frankly admitted to a representative of The Pittsburgh Courier, at his office, last Friday, that he used the Langer amendment to kill the bill. "I voted for the Langer amendment to beat the bill," he said. Other Senators who first voted for the Langer amendment guaranteeing Negroes educational equality and who then voted to kill the bill they had thus perfected, included, Senators Barbour (R.-N. D.) Buck, (R.-Del.); Danaher (R.-Conn.); Ferguson (R.-Mich.); Mead (D.-N. Y.) and Vandenberg (R.-Mich.).

GUFFEY DENOUNCES STRATEGY USED

Senator Guffey was bitter in his denunciation of the strategy employed by the Taft-Langer bloc. He told The Pittsburgh Courier, "A cruel trick has been played upon Negro voters in this instance which they should never forget. Senators Taft, Barbour and Langer were fully aware that they were playing cheap, demagogic politics in amending the bill which had the full support of Negro organizations and which had been accepted by Southern Senators. I have no brief for the Southern Senators who voted to recommit the bill, but it is clear that Taft, Barbour, Langer and others who voted for the Langer amendment and then voted to recommit the bill did so not to aid Negro education but to kill the measure."

Negro leaders in educational circles here, while refusing to be quoted, were sharp in their criticism of what they termed to be the "sell-out tactics" of Edgar Brown of the National Negro council, reported to have supported the Langer amendment.

A Stab In The Back

Journal and Guide
From St. Louis Argus

WHILE THE soldiers of the United States, black and white, were fighting and dying in Italy, in the Gilberts, and on Bougainville Island in the Southwest Pacific, they were stabbed in the back by the Senate of the United States. The action of that August body in scuttling the bill making it impossible for the men and women in our armed forces to vote wherever located around the world in the coming presidential election will go down in history as the most selfish and unpatriotic action ever taken by that body.

Norfolk, Virginia

By referring the whole matter to the states for handling, the Senate made it possible for the several states to strangle the soldier vote in a mass of red tape and discrimination which will almost totally nullify it.

Democrats, mostly from the "Deep South," bent on denying the right to vote to Negroes even though they are giving their lives for their country; and Republicans, whose fear of the soldiers' preference for President Roosevelt outweighed their patriotism and sense of fair play; and, in one instance at least, personal hatred of a senator for the President formed the ungodly coalition which denied the right to vote to soldiers of their country who are fighting to save it.

By their actions this unholy coalition of seventeen Republicans, twenty-four Democrats and one Farmer Laborite have struck a serious blow at American democracy. Not only did they deny the right to vote to 10,000,000 fighting men and women, but they confirmed the suspicion in the minds of millions of darker peoples throughout the world that America was merely giving lip service to the principles of democracy, and that at heart, many of her people, including members of the Congress, do not believe in the democratic principles which they prate so loudly about.

DEC 25 1943

And for what reason have these senators dealt their country this wicked blow? Those from the block of irreconcilable southern states which still cling to the philosophy of the slave era in their attitude toward the Negro forgot their country and justice to the soldiers and voted to keep their unholy advantage over the Negro.

Those from the north and east and west, were actuated either by their party or personal hatred and fear of the President. For this partisan advantage or that personal hatred they stabbed their fighting men at the front in the back and shamed their country in the eyes of the world. Truly, politics makes strange bed fellows.

The War On The Home Front Goes On And On

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

IN AN editorial on March 13th of this year the Journal and Guide issued a solemn warning against what was characterized as a "vicious congressional coalition" which "has deadly serious implications for America's minority group in their efforts to make as real as possible the fundamentals of democracy."

DEC 11

The criticism was levelled at a group comprising certain "reactionary congressmen, members of a Southern bloc, who are aligning themselves with certain Republican diehards and dyed-in-the wool opponents of the Administration, in a carefully planned campaign to wipe out most of the social gains that have been made by Negroes under the New Deal program."

It now appears that the time is ripe to sound another warning. This time the Senate spawns this unholy political alliance creature. Twenty-four Democrats, all southerners except six, have joined with 18 Republicans, under the guise of protecting "States Rights," to junk the Administration's service men's voting bill by the simple expedient of adopting a substitute measure by a 42 to 37 vote.

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THE rejected bill, which was offered by Senators Lucas, Democrat, of Illinois, and Green, Democrat, of Rhode Island, would have waived all states' voting qualifications except those of age and residence, setting up a war ballot commission of four members to supervise absentee balloting by personnel in all branches of the Armed Services. On the other hand, the substitute proposal merely "recommends" that the states provide appropriate legislation for absentee voting by personnel of the armed forces.

The so-called "States Rights" vote for Roosevelt should he choose to be a candidate again. The angle is of course nothing more or

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, who is injected to among which as president of the National Council of Negro Women, represents six of the poll tax democrats, and a half million wives and mothimit the vote, ers of men in the armed forces both that means the at home and abroad, characterized spect of hun- the Senate action as a "direct blow f Negro Amer- to the morale of the armed forces niform of their and a denial of the principles for o cast a ballot which the war is being fought."

But more importantly, Mrs. Bethune very pertinently asks: "How can we pledge ourselves as a nation re fearful of a to the principles of free elections in d a landslide the conquered countries which we ould he choose are striving to liberate and at the vote for Roosevelt same time deny the right to vote to

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millions of soldiers who are fighting to save our lives and our country?"

THE HORIZON

DEC 18 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Love for His Own Craftiness Leads Perry Howard Into Mischievous Error

BY P. L. PRATTIS

PERRY HOWARD'S personal relationships are characterized by noticeable grace, charm and a disarming aspect of humility and tolerance. But when he turns his interest and energy toward public matters, he succeeds in confusing his best friends who find it most difficult to determine whether he is venal or stupid or both. I think Mr. Howard is a very smart man. I think he is over smart. I think he is smart to the point of being crafty and that he lets his craftiness get the better of him—and the causes he may represent. In one notorious sense, Mr. Howard has not failed in his life work and that is to make most people fear the existence of hidden factors wherever this tireless politician takes his stand. Recently, Mr. Howard has overplayed his hand twice. The first time was when he decided to be frank and tell the world that passage of the anti-poll tax bill would not enfranchise Negro voters in the South. The second time was when he attacked the National Lawyers' Guild at the convention of the National Bar Association.



Mr. Prattis

DEC 18 1943

MALICIOUS AND SMALL

MR. HOWARD'S attack on the Guild was contrary to the spirit of good manners which he usually personifies. But it was also mischievous, malicious and small. The National Lawyers' Guild has kept the door open to Negro lawyers, in sharp contradistinction to the American Bar Association. This "open door" policy has not been without its influence on the older, less liberal, organization. But Mr. Howard is alleged to have charged that the white members of the Guild take business away from Negro lawyers. That is a childish complaint, properly repudiated by the members of the National Bar Association. White lawyers, white doctors, white grocers, white druggists, white merchants, do not take business away from Negroes in the sense of using underhand, unfair practices. Negroes themselves take their business to white lawyers, white doctors, etc. A part of this disposition is due to hangovers from slavery when respect and regard for one another was beaten out of them, and part is due, sometimes, to an honest belief that they can get superior service from the white man. But the disposition is becoming less and less marked and should not be attacked by blaming the white man.

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LACKS INSIGHT

BUT Mr. Howard has been even more obtuse in his attack on the anti-poll tax bill. He should know that no person who has been actively engaged in the fight to abolish the poll tax, has felt that this alone will enfranchise four millions Negroes in the South. This writer has repeatedly stated so. So has Mr. Schuyler. Anybody with a grain of sense knows, as Senator Bilbo predicts, that other devices will effectively be employed to keep the franchise from the Negro. But that is no reason for a man like Mr. Howard to lend his influence to the friends of the poll tax. Those friends are, for the most part, enemies of his race and of the kind of Americanism he stands for. The Bilbos, the Connallys, et al, would not oppose the anti-poll tax bill if they thought it as useless as Mr. Howard does. They have insight which Mr. Howard lacks. They know that the abolition of the poll tax will have a tendency of weaken the entire bi-racial system to which they cling. They know that victory of the anti-poll taxers means more fights along the same line, that if the poll tax is abolished, there'll have to be more battles to protect their one-party system.

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And even though we admit that the abolition of the poll tax will not enfranchise four million Negroes, what are we to say about the six million whites? Is Mr. Howard prepared to say that none of these will win the vote through abolition of the tax? Is not the fight worthwhile on behalf of these? Is it not the duty of the Negro to fight for the suffrage of all Americans? Would Mr. Howard pass up a chance to help the poor whites in the South just because the Negro is not going to get much out of the victory? If he would, he is selfish.

DEC 18 1943

DEBT TO G.O.P.

Mr. Howard says that if the anti-poll tax bill were passed, the Negro would not get the vote and he would be indebted to the Republican party for a generation. He asserts that the debt would be there, although the party had done nothing substantial for the Negro. Mr. Howard is a strange man to talk about debts in that way. One wonders what old debts he has been paying off in his unbroken allegiance to the party. Most Negroes, ten years ago, decided that their debt to the Republican party had been paid. They were quite business-like about it, They closed the books, all except a few like Mr. Howard. Is there any reason to believe that they would be less business-like and objective in the future? It is not the Negro voter who will be caught out on the limb, but rather such Negro leadership as that exemplified by Mr. Howard. To them party allegiance seems to be above party principles or practices.

The anti-poll tax bill, despite Mr. Howard, can be passed in this session of Congress if its friends stick to it. A bare, Democratic majority is needed to keep the measure before the Senate. All the friends of the bill need to do is to stand by their pledge. If they do that, cloture won't be needed, and the rule of the majority will win out against the filibusterers.

DEC 18 1943

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By WALTER WHITE

Poll Taxers At Large

DON'T GET STARTLED or believe me mentally unbalanced in saying that it is possible that Senators Kenneth McKellar of Tennessee, James O. Eastland of Mississippi, John L. McClellan of Arkansas, and Congressman John E. Rankin of Mississippi are not to become, unwittingly and unwillingly, the benefactors of the democratic race and of the democratic process. These four reactionaries, perfect examples of pride before a fall, have apparently succeeded as I write in killing, with the aid of reactionary Northern Republican Senators, a bill to establish a Federal war-ballot commission to administer a simplified ballot system to permit every man or woman in the armed services to vote next fall, no matter where he or she might be.

The method of assassination of this measure was introduction of a substitute bill, "recommending" that the states modify their absentee voting laws to permit soldiers, sailors, WACs, WAVEs and other service men and women from their states to vote. Senate Alben Barkley, Senate Majority leader, bitterly denounced the substitute which was passed by the Senate by a vote of 42 to 37 as being of no more use than "a pious resolution approved by a ladies' aid society."

The utter uselessness of the McKellar-Eastland-McClellan proposal is readily seen, so far as the 1944 elections are concerned, by the fact that the legislatures of only 13 states will meet between now and May, 1945. They are Louisiana, whose legislature meets in May, 1944; Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, South Carolina and Virginia, which meets in January. All the other legislatures do not meet until January, 1945, or later in the year. Thus nothing whatever can be done by 41 of the 48 states in arranging for absentee voting by members of the armed forces. Eleven million men and women in the Twenty-four Democrats armed services will, therefore, be disfranchised unless the Senate reverses its action.

Soldiers Doublecrossed

ROCKED BACK ON th



Walter White

DEC 18 1943

Dumb Doublecross

A VERY SPECIAL KIN of some of the members of the vicinity of Capper which have been party to from Japanese bullets at the slimy Eastland-Connecticut, and Clark of Missouri shocks and puzzles me. Did they know what they were voting for? If they did not, what is all wrong to let vote? Especially Capper of Kansas, whose record of their country—that's on such issues has always been right.

Senator Guffey Maybe the wrath which is certain to follow this vote is going to awaken America to the menace by an "unholy alliance" of choking democracy to death as we fight for it and Northern Republicansabroad.

Southern Democrats and forces of America of the "to deprive the armed for charged that Joseph Pew, right to vote." Guffey cha man was leader of the re- the Pennsylvania oil man and Senator Harry Byrd of Virginia of the reactionary Southern Democrats.

DEC 18 1943

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DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

52c-1943

Communist B. Davis And Atty. Shores Candidacy Brain Twister

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

Many Birmingham citizens remember quite well, the days back in 1934 or thereabout when Ben Davis, young Negro attorney of Atlanta, used to be seen quite often in Birmingham in the interest of the defense of the Scottsboro boys and his fight for the freedom of Angelo Herndon. All this comes back because Ben Davis has been elected to a seat on the City Council of New York while in Alabama some time ago A. D. Shores [illegible] attorney's name was stricken from the list o fthose permitted to run for membership in the law making body of the state on the ground that he is a Negro.

Nothing begets success like success, be it good or bad. Nothing begets hoplessness like failure to make progress. There ought to be a Negro or several in the state legislatures or other governing bodies in the deep South, as well as other sections of the nation not necessarily because they are Negroes, but because there are plenty who are qualified and they constitute a tremendous proportion of the population.

As long as [illegible] which prevent men like Atty. Shores from participating in the government, we may be sure that come a military victory the common man must march on and on until such situations are no more in order that there may be peace.

Ben Davis a communist on the City Council of New York and 500,000 blacks in Alabama standing right where they have been for fifty years ought make somebody mighty ashamed of themselves and the strength of their friendship for even the famed good Negroes of Dixie.

52c-1943

Arizona

Negro On Governor's Committee

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

PHOENIX, Ariz., June 24—Wade H. Hammond represents the interests of colored people on the State Planning Committee on Housing, Father Emmett McLoughlin, chairman, which met recently at the State Capitol here to discuss individual home ownership and cooperative home building for low-income groups as one of its post-war aims.

The committee recommended that immediate action be taken by county boards of supervisors to set up over-all county planning boards to work with the State Resources and Planning Board on all phases of post-war planning. Both suggestions came from Governor Osborn himself in a letter to Father McLoughlin.

The committee empowered its chairman to appoint a sub-committee to study the governor's proposals.

52c-1943

REV. FOSTER ELECTED TO CITY COUNCIL OF NEW HAVEN, CONN.

Star of Zion

Charlotte, N. C.

By MISS QUEEN ESTHER ROGERS

Rev. Richard A. G. Foster, pastor of our church of this city, was elected by a large majority to the Board of Aldermen for the city of New Haven. Rev. Foster polled more votes than the candidate for [illegible] in the 19th Ward and for the first time in some years carried the ward back to the Republican party. People of all races marched to the polls and voted for the man that has for more than three years fought the battle of minority groups in this city and state. Our pastor is now one of the law makers of our great city. Governor Baldwin and Lt. Governor Hadden were among the first to congratulate Rev. Foster for his great victory. Rev. Foster is the only Negro on the Board of Aldermen.

Rev. Foster says that it seems that I am already alderman of all of the Negroes in the city, for they have called and sent letters from all sections of the city extolling their goodwill. Shiloh Church has scored another great victory in New Haven. The Republican Committee will give a victory reception for Rev. Foster at Varick Church on Monday night, November 15. It may be observed that the city went Democratic, you can see how strong Rev. Foster is in goining over so big as a Republican. New Haven, Conn

52c - 1943

Marcantonio Blasts Dies

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
FEB 9 - 1943

By Adam Lapin
(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Tomorrow or Wednesday the House votes on the Cox resolution to continue the Dies Committee for another two years.

And so today Representative Martin Dies and his supporters tried to ship the House into a properly hysterical frame of mind for consideration of the Cox resolution.

For almost four hours today the House engaged in a verbal lynching of William Pickens, Negro leader who is employed by the Treasury Department to promote the sale of war bonds.

Representative Dies led the lynching bee with two separate speeches directed against Pickens. Dies had already been instrumental on Friday in securing passage of an amendment sponsored by Representative Joe Hendricks of Florida, dropping Pickens from the Treasury payroll.

Daily Worker

DIES OPENS WITCH-HUNT

The Pickens affairs is obviously only a beginning. The explicitly stated strategy of Martin Dies and his supporters to start a renewed witch-hunt against Liberals, Progressives and Communists in the government—at the very moment when national unity is most needed against the Fascist Axis.

The level of the attacks against Pickens was beclouded illustrated by Representative Hendricks. Attempting to answer Congressmen who defended Pickens, Hendricks said:

"Errol Flynn was acquitted, but you wouldn't like to have your daughter take a trip with him."

When the disgraceful performance was over, Representative Vito Marcantonio got the floor for a 45-minute speech in which he told the House bluntly and frankly what he thought of Dies and the dangerous revival of Red hysteria in Congress.

BLASTS DIES

"Hitler and the other two members of the Axis are today again beating the drums of the anti-Communist theme, in an effort to split the United Nations and to divide the people within the United Nations," Marcantonio said.

"Thus, while Americans are gloriously fighting at Guadalcanal and North Africa and the Red Army is smashing the enemy at Stalingrad and Rostov, Hitler and Mr. Dies are still crusading agianst Communism.

"It was a sin of omission to have disregarded the danger of the anti-Communist line in time of peace. Then it was part of Hitler's preparation for a war of conquest. To adopt that same line within our own country now, while Hitler and his anti-Comintern Axis partners use it as a weapon of war against us, would be suicidal.

URGES NO FUNDS

"Mr. Speaker," Mr. Dies and his Committee guessed wrong. They missed the real foe, they have failed to see him, even up to now. To continue this committee, therefore, is to follow a policy which the realities of a world in which people and nations are fighting for survival have taught us to be disastrous.

"Mr. Dies and his committee have followed and are following the anti-Comintern line, the anti-Communist line. Behind a smoke-screen of anti-Communism, Fascism has marched on and destroyed Democracy in its own countries, and Democratic nations. To continue the Committee in the face of realities of recent history would be a negation of everything for which Americans are fighting and dying, and would contribute toward dissipation of that unity which is being forged among the American people and the United Nations for the destruction of Fascism."

But Marcantonio got the floor after most of the members of the House had left for the day, and he was heard by only a handful of Congressmen.

Marcantonio met the anti-Comintern argument head-on. He told the House without mincing words that the Communists in this country **"as an integral part of 130,000,000 Americans are fighting and working like all other Americans for victory against the enemy."**

There is considerable sentiment in the House against Dies.

There was a revulsion against the attempt of the Dies crowd to strike from the Government payroll the 39 government employees who Dies alleges are "crackpots" and "radicals."

ANTI-DIES FEELING

This was shown in the 153 to 146 vote on Friday against the Hendricks Amendment which would have accomplished this purpose. There were also 111 votes against the Hendricks Amendment barring Pickens from the payroll, although a plurality of 163 members voted for it.

Almost a score of members of the House of varying shades of opinion both Friday and today made speeches demanding that government employees be given a "fair trial" before they are fired from the government.

But there is still a deep-rooted reluctance among liberal and pro-administration members of the House to tackle the anti-Communist issue squarely, to recognize that anti-Communist propaganda has been Hitler's most successful secret weapon.

Immediately preceding Marcantonio's speech Representative Jerry Voorhis, a member of the Dies Committee from its inception, said that its failure to investigate Fascist activities made it "more and more difficult" for him to remain on the Committee.

Voorhis said that in demanding that his new list of 39 government employes be fired Dies had presented "only a generalized charge their views are somehow unacceptable to someone else."

He continued, however, to accept the Dies theory and practice of lumping together Fascists and Communists and of taking for granted the premise that Communists ought to be premptorily fired from the government.

WITCH HUNT RESOLUTION

Representative Clarence Cannon, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, revealed to the House that he is sponsoring a resolution to set up a five-man appropriations subcommittee to review charges of "subversive" activities.

Majority Leader John McCormack gave the resolution, which will be rushed to the House floor tomorrow, his approval, as did Representative John Taber, ranking Republican member of the Appropriations Committee.

The immediate effect of this resolution will probably be to defeat the Hendricks amendments when it comes up for a vote tomorrow after the Cannon Resolution.

There is a grave danger, however, that the Appropriations Committee which is under reactionary control will set up a new witch-hunting committee.

This danger is accentuated by the vague wording of the resolution which authorizes the appropriation sub-committee to investigate charges that government employes "by reason of their present association or membership or part association or membership in or with organizations whose aim or purpose are or have been subversive to the Government of the United States."

Implicit in the resolution seems to be an acceptance that any organization designed as "subversive" by the Dies Committee is automaitcally so.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Pickens Stays In Dies Rebuff

FEB 10 1943

By Adam Lapin
(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The House cooled off just a bit today from the peak of frenzied red-baiting of the last few days.

By a decisive vote, 267 to 136, the House rejected the Hendricks amendment barring William Pickens, noted Negro leader, from the government pay roll.

The complete preoccupation of the House for several days with a legislative lynch parties led by Representative Clarence Cannon, progressive government employees during a time of desperate war against the Axis remains a disgraceful spectacle.

It should be borne too, in mind, that the real test will come on the Cox resolution to extend the Dies Committee for another two years, which reaches the floor tomorrow or Thursday, and on this issue Dies and his supporters still have the edge.

Another factor was the realization of many Congressmen, including a large number of Republicans, that they were risking the loss of Negro votes if they went on record for removing Pickens from the payroll.

While the poll tax Democrats have fired government workers before they receive a hearing.

As against the arbitrary removal of Pickens, there were also quite a few who voted to reverse the action of the House in barring him from the payroll.

There were a number of other mildly encouraging developments during the day in addition to the vote on Pickens.

By a vote of 175 to 101, the House rejected an amendment by Representative Dirksen, Illinois Republican, which would have nullified the ostensible purpose of the Cannon resolution setting up a special House appropriations subcommittee which is to provide government employees with a hearing before they are fired.

The Dirksen amendment would have separated government employees from the pay roll while charges against them are still pending. In other words, it would have fired government workers before they receive a hearing.

A number of Republicans joined with most of the Democrats in defeating the Dirksen amendment.

DANGEROUS AMENDMENT

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Nonetheless, the defeat of the Hendricks amendment was definitely encouraging.

Contributing to the vote against the Hendricks amendment was a feeling of revulsion on the part of many members against the lynch tactics of the last few days against progressive government employees.

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This amendment would have barred from employment in the Treasury and Post Office Departments not only those who allegedly advocate overthrow of the government "by force or violence" but also "by any other manner or means whatever."

It was obvious that this amendment would have thrown the flood-gates open for an unprecedented witch-hunt against government employees.

After a strong speech by majority leader John McCormack against the amendment, it was withdrawn by Representative Brehem.

JURISDICTION DISPUTE

Early in the day a brief jurisdictional dispute marked consideration in the Rules Committee of the Cannon resolution to set up a new appropriations sub-committee on "subversive" activities.

Representative E. E. Cox of Georgia and Howard Smith of Virginia expressed fears that the new committee might infringe on the jurisdiction of the Dies Committee.

This little controversy was settled by amending the Cannon resolution to limit the powers of the new sub-committee. It will not be able to ut separate bills, but will simply put in amendments to appropriation bills barring government workers whom it considers "subversive."

The new power given the appropriations committee if the Cannon resolution is passed is that it will be able to append to an appropriation bill for any agency an amendment barring government workers from any ohter agency.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
February 6, 1943
Chicago, Ill. News
February 6, 1943

Negro Attorney Named Succesor to Hastie

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—(AP)—Truman K. Gibson Jr., Negro attorney from Chicago, was appointed Friday acting civilian aide to the Secretary of War, succeeding Judge William H. Hastie, Negro, whose resignation became effective February 1.

Hastie, in resigning, protested that there had been discrimination against Negroes in the Army Air Corps.

Gibson has been assistant to Hastie. He practiced law in Chicago and is a former executive director of the American Negro Exposition in Chicago.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

House Votes to Bar Pay of War Bond Salesman; One Of 39 Listed by Dies Group

FEB 11 1943

Washington (ANP—Singling out Dean William Pickens as the one of 39 to be denied pay for alleged communistic affiliations, the house committee as a whole voted 163 to 111 Friday to amend the billion dollar Treasury Post Appropriation bill to provide that no money in it should be used to pay the dean—top Negro employe on the bond sales division.

It refused to amend the bill to bar payment to the 39 named on the Dies list, but voted later to bar Pickens alone—one of the Negroes named.

Late Friday night Dean Pickens told the Associated Negro Press representative he had no comment to make at this time. He has been employed by the treasury department for some time and has won the esteem and respect of his fellow workers.

FEB 11 1943

Whether he would make an official statement later depended upon the action of the treasury department.

Caught in Middle

Laughing, the dean said: "One group is trying to cut my throat for being too loyal, while the other wants to cut my throat for not being loyal enough. So where am I?"

An amendment to the Treasury Post Office Appropriation bill was offered in the house by Joe Hendricks of DeLand, Fla. His original statement named the 39 persons, indicted by Dies in the house last week—two of whom are no longer on the Federal payrolls—including Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune.

FEB 11 1943

Mr. Marcantonio of New York called a point of order on the procedure, pointing out that a number of persons named in the amendment were not affected by the treasury payroll.

"Now I want to go into the question of the one man who will be affected particularly by this bill, William Pickens According to the Daily Worker of October 3. 1933. said Hendricks, who had gained the floor, "William Pickens who was the speaker who following Earl Browder at the opening mass meeting of the United States Congress Against War.

"The single quotation attributed to Pickens in this news story the Daily Worker was significant and was as follows: 'To take the profit motive out of war we must take the class-profit opportunities out of our economic system.'

FEB 11 1943

"Earl Browder spoke and then Pickens spoke. Let me say to you here Pickens has denied any communistic activities and at time he has said he did not know that these organizations were communistic."

* * * *

DIES PINS RED LABEL ON PICKENS, BETHUNE

Washington (ANP—Martin Dies, representative from Texas who is at the capital helping Hitler fight Red Russia, described himself as a "friend of the Negro" before congress Monday before listing 40 "Communist Crackpots," among them Dean William Pickens and Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune. This is the second time that the head of the Dies committee has singled out the two distinguished leaders as "dangerous Red radicals."

His accusations against the two leaders were stated as follows:

"Now take the case of William Pickens, who is principal securities promotion specialist for the treasury department at a salary of $5,600. Pickens signed a manifest in defense of the notorious Communist Sam Darcy. Pickens was vice chairman of the American League Against War and Fascism, which the attorney general branded as subversive. He was also a contributor to the Communist party's New Masses. He was a sponsor of the Greater New York Emergency Conference on Inalienable Rights, a section of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties which the attorney general also found to be subversive. Pickens was a sponsor of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign-Born, a speaker for the United States Congress Against War, and a sponsor of the American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom.

"Here is the case of Mary McLeod Bethune wh ois employed by the National Youth administration at a salary of $6,250. Mary McLeod Bethune was publicly and prominently affiliated with four of the organizations which the attorney general has branded as subversive. She was national vice chairman of the American League for Peace and Democracy. The other three subversive organizations with which she was affiliated were the American Youth congress, the National Negro congress, and the Washington Committee for Democratic Action."

FEB 11 1943

On the occasion of a previous attack both Dean Pickens and Mrs. Bethune issued statements denying all allegations made by the Texan.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Dixie Congressman Regrets Calling Pickens "Mister"

FEB 20 1943

WASHINGTON

Fearful that he might offend his constitutents, Rep. Joe Hendricks of Florida hastened to amend his statement of last week, in congress Monday.

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Said Joe:

"I say to you that any man coming from the South knows that a southerner does not refer to a colored man as 'mister.' When I started talking about this man and getting information on him I did not even know he was a colored man. I got in the habit of saying 'Mr. Pickens' and made that statement on the floor two or three times, which is evidence to you that I did not even know he was a colored man and did not care about that."

Congress Reverses Itself On Dean Pickens Ouster

FEB 13 1943

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

The action of the House in cutting William Pickens from the Treasury payroll last Saturday was reversed on Monday after Negro leaders and political chieftans had button-holed members of Congress over the week-end.

Yielding to Texas' Martin Dies' contention that Pickens was a "crack-pot Communist" the House voted 163 to 111 to remove his name from the Treasury payroll.

FEB 13 1943

Over the week-end Republicans and Northern Democrats alike, realized that their vote would have serious political repercussions, and on Monday, they reversed themselves by a large majority. Mr. Pickens remains on the payroll.

The action to reverse themselves followed an impassioned plea by Congressman William L. Dawson. He told his colleagues in Congress that he had known Pickens for forty years; that he knew he was not a Communist. He admitted the possibility that Pickens had, at times, addressed meetings, which later, it developed, were Communist-inspired and sponsored. He declared that he and many Congressmen had done the same thing.

FEB 13 1943

He vouched for Mr. Pickens' loyalty, and warned the Congress that their action would be looked upon by the world as a blow at Pickens because of his race.

The House, irked because of the trap Dies got them in, moved to curb some of the powers of the Dies Committee. From now on, Dies Committee which has acted as prosecutor, judge and jury, can only indict persons accused of Communistic affiliation. A special committee of the Congress will hold public hearings in each case, giving the accused an opportunity to defend himself.

FEB 13 1943

BENNETT COLLEGE PROF. GETS JUSTICE DEP'T. JOB

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Albert N. Whiting, instructor of sociology at Bennett College, resigned his position recently to accept the appointment as assistant organizations and propaganda analyst, Special War Policies Unit, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Baltimore, Md. Afro-American
July 24 1943

Raise Thompkins' Salary

WASHINGTON, July 22—(ANP)—The Senate passed and sent to the House yesterday a bill providing for the increase of the salary of Dr. William Thompkins, recorder of deeds, from $6,000 to $8,000 per annum. The measure will now have to await the reconvening of congress.

52c-1943

PM

New York, N. Y.

D.C.

Reverses Firing of Pickens, 267-136; Sets Up Review Board

FEB 1 1 1943

By NATHAN ROBERTSON

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10. — Having spanked the Dies Committee soundly for condemning Federal officials without a hearing, the House today will give it another two-year lease on life.

The House administered the spanking yesterday by:

¶ Voting to set up a special subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee to review Dies' charges against 39 Government employes before acting against them.

¶ Refusing to suspend the employment of these officials pending outcome of the inquiry by the new committee.

¶ Reversing its action of last week forcing William Pickens, a Negro employe of the Treasury, cited by Dies, from the Federal payroll. The roll call vote on this was 267-136 against Dies.

Admission of Unfairness

In all three votes, the House decided overwhelmingly that it could not take action against Federal employes merely because Dies had charged that they were Communists or crackpots. It was an acknowledgment, without many of the members realizing it, that Dies, in publicly accusing the officials without hearing them, had done them an injustice.

FEB

Rep. Herman P. Eberharter (D., Pa.) a critic of the Dies Committee, pointed out to the House that this was what it was doing. He said the vote setting up a new Committee to review the Dies charges was "a declaration that the House does not place full faith in allegations of the Dies Committee."

But members of the House chose to ignore the implications of what they were doing, and prepared to vote today to continue the Committee, anyway.

The explanation of this repudiation of Dies on the eve of another vote of confidence for him is that the issue before the House yesterday was action directed solely against Pickens, a Negro—which scared the politically-minded Republicans.

Republican Leader Joseph Martin, Jr., urged his colleagues to play fair and give Pickens a hearing before dismissing him. At the same time, he declared for continuation of the Dies Committee, which had made the charges against Pickens without hearing him and was at that very moment still trying to throw him off the Government rolls without hearing him.

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All to Be Reviewed

To forestall this action against Pickens, Martin and other Republican leaders joined in the move to set up the committee to review the charges against him and 38 other Federal officials denounced by Chairman Martin Dies as crackpots.

Last week, before they discovered Pickens was a Negro, most of the Republicans joined with the Dies crowd in voting, 163-111, to fire Pickens. They also almost succeeded in throwing out the other 38.

FEB 10 1943

Notwithstanding the political motives involved, debate sounded yesterday as though the House finally had caught up with Martin Dies.

Chairman Adolph Sabath D., Ill.) of the Rules Committee presented the rule for creation of the special committee, with a statement charging Dies with smearing the officials he named.

FEB 10 1943

"It is strange to me that at this time only those men advocating progressive measures should be smeared as Communists," Sabath told the House. "Most of these men have been investigated by the Civil Service Commission and the departments. I wonder why, when we have hundreds of thousands of Fascists in this country, no report is made against them.

Praises Russia

"It seems that we are at war with Russia and not Germany or Japan. Yet Russia has done more to preserve our country than any other nation under the sun."

Hamilton Fish, of New York, said the evidence against Pickens was "sufficient," but urged creation of the review committee so the House would not "make a martyr of him."

Rep. William M. Colmer D., Miss.), urging the House to stand by its vote against Pickens, charged the Republicans with playing politics because he was a Negro, and warned them that if they expected to run Congress in coalition with the Southern Democrats they would have to "play fair" with them.

Not all of the Southerners voted against Pickens, however. Rep. Sam Hobbs (D., Ala.) told the House it did not have "a scintilla of right" to throw a man off the Federal payroll unless he had been proved disloyal or subversive. Warning his colleagues to "play fair," Hobbs said "there is no proof in the records of the Dies Committee that Pickens ever has been a Communist."

Dies Fights Back

The resolution creating the review committee went through without a record vote, but almost immediately a move was started by Dies and his supporters to ameliorate its effect.

The first was an amendment by Rep. Everett Dirksen (R., Ill.) to remove all employes charged by Dies with subversive affiliations pending determination of the facts. Although this would have forced the departments to suspend without pay anyone even accused by Dies, who has made charges against hundreds of officials, it was defeated only by a vote of 175-101.

The Dies Committee took its soundest spanking on the final vote of the day—the record vote demanded by his supporters of the proposal to force Pickens off the payroll without waiting for him to be heard by the review committee.

Although 53 Republicans lined up with the Southern group in the face of Martin's appeal, the amendment by Rep. Joe Hendricks (D.-Fla.) was defeated almost 2 to 1.

Many of the Southerners broke away from the Dies group on this test of faith in the Dies charges.

Republicans who voted with the Southerners included Clare Hoffman, Michigan, Dirksen and Jessie Sumner, Illinois.

New Yorkers who voted to condemn Pickens without hearing included: Clarence E. Kilburn, W. Sterling Cole, Joseph J. O'Brien, John C. Butler, and Daniel A. Reed, all Republicans. The rest of the New York delegation voted to suspend judgment except Reps. Thomas H. Cullen, James J. Heffernan, Martin J. Kennedy, and Bernard W. Kearney, who were not recorded.

Richmond, Va., Times-Dispatch

February 6, 1943

Why Crucify Pickens?

DR. WILLIAM PICKENS, chief of the interracial section of the War Savings Staff, United States Treasury, and one of the sanest and most constructive Negro leaders in the United States, was singled out yesterday by the House of Representatives as a man unfit to be on the government payroll. The House, in committee of the whole, amended the Treasury appropriation bill to provide that no part of the appropriation could be used to pay DR. PICKENS' salary.

The only reason for this extraordinary action on the part of the House, seems to have been that DR. PICKENS was on a list of 30 "bureaucratic totalitarians" released February 1 by MARTIN DIES, the erratic and irresponsible chairman of the DIES committee. The House apparently took it for granted, from this, that there was something wrong with DR. PICKENS.

Actually, he is giving valuable service to the cause of better and more harmonious race relations in this country in these critical times. Moreover, he is urging upon the Negroes wholehearted support of the war, is traveling all over the United States addressing Negro rallies in the interest of the bond campaign (he spoke in Richmond last Spring), and he is a force for sanity and restraint in a sometimes tense situation between whites and blacks. DR. PICKENS was ousted as an official of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People last year because he praised the all-Negro air squadron at Tuskegee. The NAACP took the position that it was a segregated squadron, containing no white flyers, and hence was unworthy of any praise whatever.

This attempt to crucify WILLIAM PICKENS is nothing surprising, in view of the DIES committee's spotty record in the past. It has uncovered some authentic Communists in the administration, and for this we owe it thanks. But for every such genuine "Red" it has dug up, it has smeared another innocent person. DR. PICKENS, the sort of level-headed and conservative Negro leader whom DIES and the whole House ought to admire, is the latest victim of the Texas Congressman's blundering, blunderbuss technique.

Columbia, S. C., State

February 9, 1943

PICKENS DEFENDED

Washington, Feb. 8 —(AP)— William Pickens, Negro treasury employe who has been attacked by Representative Dies for alleged Communist connections, received a defense today from the only Negro member of congress, Representative Dawson (D-Ill).

Age-Herald

Birmingham, Ala.

"The Communists have fought me more than they have fought any other Negro," William Pickens, of the United States Treasury Department, writes this column. "They regard me as their chief barrier at the entrance of the Negro race in America. I have met them in many places, but always as an opponent." I have reason to believe this is true of William Pickens. Yet Martin Dies says he is a Communist, and Martin "is an honorable man."

MAR 9 - 1943

Atlanta, Georgia
Daily World

Dr. Carothers Changes Post

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (A N P)—It is reported in the city that Dr. Benjamin Carothers, for several years head of the romance language de-

Pickens, Bethune Listed 6 "Radicals"

WASHINGTON, D. C. — In- cluded in a long list of names read before the House by Representative Martin Dies, Demo- crat, Texas, Monday, persons in the employ of the government whom he identified "absolute and irresponsible, as representative, bu- reaucrats and radical- tive, crackpot and

Meanwhile, the CIO last week appealed to the House of Representatives to vote for dismissal of the persons continuance of the Dies Committee, the national committee, asserting that it was an "absolute and overwhelming necessity for the best interests of our war effort." — (Story on

Norfolk, Virginia
Journal and Guide

MAR 13 1943

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Pickens To Get Hearing

FEB 20 1943

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18—Feeling ran high in Congress last week as member after member took the floor to oppose or support a new two-year contract for the Dies' Committee to Investigate un-American Activities. The supporters won. But enough opposition was mustered to checkmate Dies when a bi-party coalition agreed to create a five-man House Sub-Committee on Subvervise Government Employees, whose duty it will be to hear charges against the 39 individuals who have been "labeled" by Dies. This list includes Dean William Pickens and Dr. Mary Bethune.

Pickens' case assumed the status of a national issue in recent days as party lines and sectional traditions were forgotten in hectic sessions, which not only witnessed Alabama's Sam Hobbs defending the Treasury Bond specialist, but also heard Compton I. White of Idaho rebuke his colleagues for wasting time on a "darky."

PROTESTS POUR IN

Appropriations Committee Chairman Cannon of Missouri, who sponsored the special sub-committee and the man to whom it will be responsible, assured the House that the cases will be taken up immediately.

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In the meantime, wires and letters of protest had poured in on the various representatives from prominent individuals and organizations, including the NAACP, the March on Washington Movement, the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority and others.

However, the greatest defense in Pickens' behalf came from the floor of Congress.

Majority Leader McCormick of Massachusetts spoke defending Pickens. Although Republican Leader Martin was silent, he vote in his behalf when an amendment to the Treasury appropriation bill to withhold pay from the Dean was voted down last week, 267 to 136.

DID NOT KNOW PICKENS' RACE

Said Charles I. Gifford of Massachusetts: "I did not know anything about William Pickens until this debate opened. I did not even know he was a colored man. I do not like the idea of bringing the color issue upon the floor in this manner."

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Added Minnesota's Knutsen: "I understand all these fine distinctions, or I hope so, but the cold fact remains that we voted on Friday to bar from employment one poor colored man and we refused to take similar action with 37 white men. My God! That is almost lynch law."

In protest against the attempted ouster of Pickens, Arthur Spingarn, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, released a resolution passed last week by the NAACP board of directors. It was sent to Messrs. Martin and McCormick.

"A CHALLENGE TO THE RACE AND DEMOCRACY"

A. Philip Randolph, in behalf of the MWM, stated the whole case was "a slap in the face and a challenge to all Negro Americans who have one drop of blood of pride of race and to all Americans, regardless of race, who believe in democracy."

Newsome Post, Hampton
February 19, 1943

Gore Is Ready To Take Place On Committee

By JESSE S. COTTRELL
(Staff Corerspondent)

Washington, Feb. 19—Congressman Albert Gore of Tenenssee, member of a special subcommittee to investigate government employes, charged with subversive activities by the Dies Committee, plans to get to work by Thursday.

Congressman Gore said today that absence from the city of Congressman Keefe of Wisconsin, another member, and lack of a definite reply from former Congressman William B. Umstead of Durham, N. C., as to accepting the position of counsel for the committee, for which he was selected, had somewhat delayed the committee in getting off to a quick start.

Meantime, it was learned that the subcommittee which will start to function this week by examining Dies Committee charges of subversion filed against eight federal workers, may also hear accusations of "radicalism" which may be brought against government workers by members of Congress and others. The charges, it was emphasized, must be submitted in documentary form.

Subcommittee members denied, however, that there was any intention that the subcommittee would act as a kind of congressional board of review of Civil Service appointments. The subcommittee's main purpose, it was said, will be to consider charges made by the committee headed by Representative Dies, Democrat of Texas, and to recommend to the House that it stop payment of salaries to those workers against whom it finds the charges to be supported.

While the subcommittee will give accused employes a chance to be heard in their own defense which the Dies Committee in large measure failed to do, its hearings probably will be held behind closed doors. It was explained that, in a sense, the subcommittee will be sitting as an employer of workers who will appear before it, and, it was contended, meetings of this nature should be in private.

First charges to be considered by the committee will be those against William Pickens, Negro, securities promotion specialist employed in the Treasury Department. Dies accused Pickens of having been a member of a "subversive" organization and the House voted to stop his pay, but changed its mind a few days later after political implications of this action filtered through Republican minds.

Next, the subcommittee will investigate charges against seven employes whose salaries are paid from appropriations in the Independent Offices Appropriation bill.

Employes receiving their pay from appropriations in the bill included Henry T. Hunt, special assistant general counsel of the Federal Works Agency, $5,600; A. C. Shire, director of the technical division of the Federal Public Housing Authority, $7,500; Milton V. Freeman, assistant solicitor, Securities and Exchange Commission, $6,500; Frederick L. Schuman, chief political analyst, Federal Communications Commission, $5,600; Goodwin B. Watson, chief broadcast analyst, FCC, $6,500; William E. Dodd, Jr., Federal Communications Commission, $3,200.

Christian Index
Jackson, Tennessee

MR. WILLIAM PICKENS' OUSTER

DEAN WILLIAM PICKENS, who was accused by Mr. Walter White a few months ago before the N. A. A. C. P. of being too conservative and reactionary has been "fired" by an act of the Congress of the United States of America, from his $5,600 a year position as a specialist in the War Saving Division of the United States Treasury Department. This action was taken through a report of Congressman Martin Dies' Committee of investigation. The action of Congress discontinued the appropriation of funds for the salary of thirty-eight other persons thus accused by the Dies committee. Not any of whom, other than Mr. Pickens, were employed in the Treasury Department. The only comment made by Dean Pickens was "One group in trying to cut my throat for being too loyal while the other wants to cut my throat for not being loyal enough. So where am

FEB 18 1943

We feel that the members of our race everywhere who are acquainted with Mr. Pickens heartily join with Congressman William L. Dawson, the only member of our group in the United States Congress in his words in defense before Congress on behalf of Dean Pickens. Among other things he stated, "We know that William Pickens has been going up and down the length of this country teaching Americanism."

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan

PICKENS TO PLEAD HIS CHARGE MADE BY DIES

FEB 26 1943

Washington, Feb. 21—(ANP)—The hearings by which the country will know whether or not Dean William Pickens is a radical or red, according to charges made by Martin Dies, will be held behind closed doors. But, according to the statement of Rep. Kerr of North Carolina, the committee will hear only the individuals charged and no character witnesses unless it is a very special occasion.

The committee, it is said, has decided to throw out any cases in which there is the slightest doubt about accused employes' loyalty to the United States. The fact that an employe has been a member or has attended meetings of a so-called Communist front group won't be considered sufficient evidence to oust him from his job, it is reported by one writer who has followed the case closely.

"This is significant," the writer continues, "because virtually all the evidence the Dies committee has on federal workers is based on connections with 'front' organizations, like the League for Peace and Democracy, now disbanded."

Rep. Kerr has urged supercaution in dealing with all the cases and he is said to have the unanimous support of the other members of the committee which he heads.

FEB 20 1943

Late Thursday evening, Dean Pickens advised the Associated Negro Press that he had not been notified of any date set for his appearance.

It is also reported that the chairman of the house appropriations committee has received a large number of letters and telegrams protesting the smearing of Dean Pickens.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Gibson Appointment Comes as a Surprise

The War Department announced this week the appointment of Truman K. Gibson, of Chicago, as Acting Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, succeeding Judge William H. Hastie, who resigned because of the Army Air Force's discriminatory policy.

FEB 13 1943

Gibson, a Georgia-born lad of 30 years, had served as assistant to Judge Hastie. Because he had stated his agreement with Hastie's action, his acceptance of the appointment came as a big surprise.

FEB 13 1943

Only last week, Gibson had declared his intention of resigning as soon as the Hastie successor had been named. No one imagined that at the time he made the statement he was a candidate himself.

The position had been offered to and declined by Albert W. Dent, Dillard University president; Frederick Patterson, Tuskegee president; John W. Davis, president of West Virginia State College; Charles H. Houston, nationally known attorney; and Walter White, secretary of the N.A.A.C.P.

It was the hope of Negroes that others would not permit themselves to be lured by the

Washington Tribune, D. C.
FEB 13 1943

Newspapermen Named to OPA

Appointed to a liasion positionthe last week, the Office of Price Administration has announced. Mr. Coles, who is 41, has been employ of the City Election Commission in Detroit for the last six years. He is a man could not be learned, but observers believe that the War Department will continue him as Acting Aide without ever naming a permanent successor to Hastie.

Joseph C. Coles, in his studies this week, the civic and public affairs of Detroit and the state of Michigan for many years.

operation of Negroes with the ence, having been a columnist program of the Office of Price for a Detroit weekly paper. He

52c-1943

CHICAGOAN PROMOTED



MRS. THELMA B. DAVIS

Who has just been promoted to assistant fiscal auditing clerk in the payroll section, division of central administrative services, OEM headquarters, Washington, D. C. She is the first of her race to hold that position in her office. The wife of Frank Marshall Davis, poet and executive editor of the Associated Negro Press, Chicago, she has been at OEM headquarters since January.

Recorder Of Deeds Again Threatened With D.C. Axe

WASHINGTON—The commissioners of the District of Columbia have renewed their efforts to wrest from Negroes administration of the office of Recorder of Deeds.

In companion bills introduced in the Senate and House after drafting by the District officials, it is sought to remove from the Recorder of Deeds office its division of accounts and disbursements.

While the bills, S-1251 and HR-3032, were introduced by Senator Pat McCarran, Nevada and Rep. Jennings Randolph, W. Va., as the respective chairmen of the Senate and House Committee on the District of Columbia, it is not believed that either of the congressmen favors the measure, but introduced them as courtesies to the district commissioners.

The provisions of the measure are the same as were included in the 1944 appropriation bill at the Commissioners' request.

Draft New Bill

When the appropriation bill was before the House, it agreed unanimously that the provision should be stricken as an unwarranted transfer of a Federal function to the local government.

Irked and surprised at this House action, and determined to gain control of the Recorder's office, the commissioners had their aides draft an independent bill which would accomplish the same purpose that the House last April defeated.

The bill provides that "all funds now or hereafter appropriated for the expenses of the office of Recorder of Deeds * * * of the District of Columbia shall be withdrawn from the Treasury of the United States only on requisitions approved by the commissioners of the District of Columbia and disbursed by the disbursing officer of the District of Columbia upon vouchers previously audited and approved by the auditor of the District of Columbia."

Would Wreck Office

To transfer these functions to the municipal authorities would rid the office of its national importance and reduce it to a lesser bureau under district supervision, which is what the commissioners have been urging for the past twenty years.

Negroes throughout the country, for the past 60 years, have prided themselves in the fact that the Recorder of Deeds was one Negro official in actual charge of his office, with authority to hire his own personnel and to disburse his own funds.

The introduction of these bills is viewed as the commissioners' contribution to the efforts designed to rid Negroes of positions of importance in the Federal Government.

Even if the bill passes, it is believed that the President would veto it as he has taken an unusual friendly interest in the Recorder's office, and in 1940, he broke the ground for a new Recorder of Deeds building, the erection of which the commissioners had bitterly opposed.

Hits Order 8802

Of the three commissioners, Guy Mason appears to be the most outspoken in his efforts to gain control of this important office.

A Washington delegation of prominent Negroes who waited on him recently quoted him as declaring that Executive Order 8802 was "so much bosh" and that the matter of democracy was being "overworked."

As a result of his statements to this group and his previous and recent actions, commissioner Mason has been accused of harboring race prejudice, and some papers in editorials, have urged, the President not to reappoint him when his term expires in July, 1944.

Washington Scene

BY EDGAR G. BROWN

Republicans Save Dean Pickens And Mrs. Bethune

In arriving at a true and accurate evaluation of the 1st session of the 78th Congress and its accomplishments along racial lines, it is well to compare the official behavior of the leaders of the 208 Republicans in the House of Representatives, Congressman Joseph W. Martin (Rep.) Massachusetts and the 224 Democrats led by Speaker Sam Rayburn (Dem.) Texas.

The Democratic disciples of President Roosevelt have been notoriously cociferous and active, since January 6th, in bottling up anti-lynching, anti-poll tax, anti-discrimination and civil rights legislation through the use of their votes, chairmanships of the committees and seniority perogatives gained largely by disfranchising over the year 10,000,000 colored men and women in the south. Not one word has been uttered by President Roosevelt, Speaker Rayburn and the northern and southern Democratic spokesmen, Congressman McCormick (Dem.) Massachusetts and Congressman Ramspeck (Dem.) Georga, nor Congressman William L. Dawson, only Democratic member of the House in protest of the 46 speeches delivered by Congressman John E. Rankin (Dem.) Mississippi against the constitutional rights of the 13,000,000 colored people and 700,000 colored service men in the U.S. Army, Navy, and the Air Corps.

While on the other hand, Congressman Baldwin (Rep.) N. Y. and Congressman Bender (Rep.) Ohio, were responsible for the success of the anti- poll tax petition and its passage in the House; the filing of the discharge petition by the late Congressman U. S. Guyer to bring the federal anti-lynching bill to a similar vote, Congressman Knutson (Rep.) of Minn., in gaining complete income tax forgiveness of those under $50, Congresswoman Bolton (Rep.) Ohio and Congressman Willey (Rep.) Delaware with their anti-discrimination amendments in the nurse training and rehabilitation acts, Congressman Short (Rep.) Mo., who won a national memorial for Dr. George Washington Carver, all, offer incontrovertible evidence of the resurgence of the spirit of the G.O.P. in upholding the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments to the Constitution, to guarantee equal rights to all Americans, regardless of race, creed or color.

Congressman man Martin's personal leadership and impressioned appeal for equal justice saved Dean Pickens and Mrs. Bethune, by rallying the Republicans back of the vote and kept them on the payroll despite the subversive charges of Congressman Hendricks (Dem.) Florida.

Chief of All Race Matters

Kansas City Call

Former Urban League and NYA Man to New Job

Kansas City, Mo.

BY ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Walter White of the N. A. A. C. P., and Lester Granger of the National Urban league will have to clear through T. Arnold Hill if they ever want to see Price Administrator Prentiss Brown. That goes also for any other Negro who wants to talk about the high cost of living.

Administrative order No. 84, announced Saturday by the OPA, sets up Hill as the bottleneck on Negro matters in that agency, and gives him the title of special assistant to the administrator, and a budget to play with.

Anxious to avoid any criticism of OPA's "relationship to our Negro citizens," and seeking to insure participation and cooperation all around, Brown sets forth Hill's job in this way in the memorandum to "all OPA employes" transmitting the order:

'Boss' in Race Issues

"I am directing that in the national office all communications and all questions pertaining to Negro participation, support and cooperation, and all questions dealing with matters of policy, racial discrimination, and arrangements for conferences with delegations that want to be heard on Negro matters, and the like, be cleared with this office of the special assistant to the administrator.

"Communications addressed to the administrator or simply to the Office of Price Administration when referring to the above mentioned matters should be transmitted to Mr. Hill's office for appropriate disposition."

The order is an outgrowth of an effort initiated by George Weaver, administrator of the CIO Anti-Discrimination committee, which sought first to make it incumbent upon those selecting the membership of price panels in the communities to see that there was "minority and racial group" representation; second, that a person on the staff in the national office be designated to see that this was done. The CIO plan laid before Brown did not attempt to establish an office on Negro affairs.

To Give Advice

The agency will call upon the office of the special assistant for the inclusion and enforcement of price, rent and rationing regulations in Negro areas.

In short, all matters arising in OPA and affecting Negroes will be collected and channeled into the office of the special assistant. When the order was issued on Saturday Prentiss Brown was out of his office, and A. Manning Shaw, his executive assistant, was out of town. Elliot Marple, chief of local war price and rationing boards; informational and advisory service, was "out to lunch" for Negro groups' and officers' conference, com-at four o'clock. Hill, himself, was not expected back in the capital until "early next week," according to assistant and cooperation with regard to the at volunteer employment of Negroes people for the program. The agency will call upon the recommend to the "re-special assistant to "counsel and officers" such action as advise" the personnel division on interpretations and analyses methods of securing paid, and

'Won Battle, Lost War'

On May 4 an amendment to an OPA officers in the national of-pointment of earlier administration order was fice or in the field, or on his employes of signed by Brown which carried down initiative, he will review and rationing boards; out the first Weaver objective. analyze plans, programs and pro-services for Negro cedures, and consult with those other public relations outlets; and plaints, reports, and informational materials on Negro problems or until "early next week," according

Defender JUN 26 1943 Chicago. 1/1
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JUL 24 1943
JUL 23 1943
JUL 23 1943

his secretary.

No one was available to answer questions with regard to proposed procedures for the Hill office, salary, or the affect the order will have upon the more than 200 Negro employes of OPA who are now holding down white collar jobs of the technical and professional variety throughout the agency.

When he joined the staff of OPA last October, Hill was given the title of special assistant to the senior deputy administrator, John E. Hamm. His desk was in the rent control section. Nobody is sure what his specific duties have been, but his own office is responsible for the statement that "he had been doing just about what his new job will be."

For years Mr. Hill had been identified with the National Urban league as an executive. Later he was a consultant with the Works Projects administration. He then became assistant director of Negro affairs with the National Youth administration under Director Mary McLeod Bethune.

The Tribune Speaks

Back Door Negroes

There are some Negroes in Washington who hold high positions in our civic and welfare organizations who are running with the hare and hunting with the hound.

In organization meetings they proclaim to want everything other Negroes want and should have; to believe in a government by and for the people; to believe that discrimination based upon race should be abolished. But when we begin pressing for these claims, these same two-faced Negroes can be seen sneaking in the back door of official offices, warning the white bosses that the claims are being pressed by radical, Communistic Negroes, and should not be granted.

The names of these Negroes who are telling the officials that Negroes want segregation in our fire department to be maintained, would shock most of us, for among them are some who parade as fearless liberals by day, and play the roll of Uncle Toms by night.

So determined are some in their efforts to retain segregation here, and hold us in eternal servitude, that they are stooping to the low level of trying to bring about the discharge of those Negroes in Government positions who want integration.

We should not be dismayed, however, for it is recalled that even Jesus had His Judas to betray Him.

The Tribune is rapidly learning who these betrayers are, and as soon as we can get a more complete list, we are going to lift the veil from their noggins. These hooded traitors are as much to be dispised as are members of the Klu Klux Klan, and we must rid them from our midst, for they are more dangerous.

Some have even gone so far as to attempt to muzzle the Tribune, and prevent it from carrying on its fight in the people's cause. The Tribune will not be muzzled. It is the unbridled servant of the people. It cannot be bought; it will not be sold, and it will trample over all who stand in its way, for its way is the people's way.

When the Tribune ceases to speak out fearlessly against the injustices heaped upon Negroes here and elsewhere in this Country, including the Armed Forces, it will not be worthy of the patronage nor respect of anyone.

Our policy has been and will be to chop our wood and let the chips fly where they may, and those back door Negroes who try to hinder us will be chopped along with the wood.

The people have a right to know who these traitors are, and it will be the purpose of the Tribune to give the people that information.

and merits the support of every Negro. Negro business should use the Negro press more for advertising because advertisement is the principal support of any newspaper. In proportion that it receives the support of every Negro can the Negro press champion more aggressively the rights inherent in every American citizen.

APPOINTED BY BIDDLE



The distinction of being the first Negro to become a member of the trial bureau of the Department of Justice goes to Martin A. Martin of Danville, Va., who was sworn in on May 31. Photo shows Mrs. Nellie G. Plumley ,appointment clerk administering the oath. Attorney General Francis Biddle appointed Martin as an associate attorney in the Department of Justice. As president of the Danville (Va.) branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Martin served as associate attorney in the appeal of the Odel Waller case to the Supreme court. At the time of his appointment to the Department of Justice, Mr. Martin was attorney for the Danville Savings bank, the oldest Negro banking institution in Virginia, and for the Negro Building and Loan association in that city.

TREASURY AIDE ON STAND FOR 3 HOURS

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 8—In a sneak move to prevent Dean William Pickens, War Bond Sales Official of the Treasury Department, from receiving an unprejudiced public hearing before a special sub-committee of members of the House Committee on Appropriations on charges of subversive activity, the Dies Committee last Friday brought Dean Pickens before it in a private hearing and submitted him to a three-hour examination on the charges. This action was taken by the committee with full knowledge of the fact that the Kerr Committee, set up by Congress to examine the charges, would give Dean Pickens the opportunity to testify in his own defense this week.

NO ADVANCE NOTICE GIVEN

The Dies Committee members who were present at the hearing included Starnes of Alabama, Costello of California, Thomas of New Jersey, Mason of Illinois and Mundt of South Dakota. No advance notice of this hearing was given either to Dean Pickens or to the Kerr Committee. Members of the Dies Committee refused to indicate what transpired at the hearing and no word was available from Dean Pickens, who left on a bond-selling tour in the Middle West shortly after the hearing. Congressman John M. Costello, Democrat from California, a member of the committee, stated after the hearing that the testimony would be submitted to the Kerr Committee, together with all other data in the hands of the Dies Committee, to Congressman Kerr for use in the hearings this week.

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52c-1943

Negroes Demand Pickens Reinstated

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
FEB 9 - 1943

By Eugene Gordon

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"Here we had a demonstration of the Negro woman's true character when faced with an emergency like this," Miss Moore said. "I feel confident that this splendid action and leadership will inspire other women's organizations to join this fight against the subversive Dies and his committee."

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Mr. Dingle said he was opposed to Mr. Pickens' removal on Martin Dies' "unproved charge" and that the least he could do was appeal to the President and the Secretary of the Treasury to intervene.

M. Moran Weston, state chairman of the civil liberties department, New York State Association of Negro Elks, saw the Dies attack on Mr. Pickens as an admission that the reactionaries had been defeated in trying to destroy the Fair Employment Practice Committee. President Roosevelt last week ordered the FEPC reconstructed.

Having failed on that front, Mr. Weston said, "the 'white supermacy' poll-tax gang" has struck at the Negro people this time through the Dies committee.

"William Pickens is the first victim of this sinister scheme, but he will not be the last," Mr. Weston said, "unless the people of the United States call the appeasers' hand on this plot to shut out Negroes from the war agencies."

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Negro Treasury Employe Defended

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"I say that with all the integrity of a man who would fight and die for America today," Dawson added, recalling his active participation in the last war. He said many negroes unwittingly join organizations which they believe pledged to their betterment but promptly leave them when they discover their errors.

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Pickens' Retirement Vote Fails To Carry, Ballot Is 267 To 136

Birmingham News
Birmingham, Ala.

Six Representatives Of Alabama Support Releasing Of Negro

FEB 10 1943

BY CARROLL KILPATRICK
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WASHINGTON — Six Alabama representatives late Tuesday voted with the Dies committee in support of the Hendricks amendment to retire William Pickens, a Negro treasury employe, to private life.

Rep. Sam Hobbs was the only Alabama member who declined to support the amendment. Hobbs made a speech before the House, expressing criticism of Pickens, but urging the House not to violate the fundamental laws of the land by writing an amendment in to the treasury appropriation bill specifically firing one individual.

The Hendricks amendment was defeated, 267 to 136. The six Alabamians who voted with the minority were Reps. John P. Newsome, John J. Sparkman, Carter Manasco, George Grant, Pete Jarman and Joe Starnes, the latter a member of the Dies committee. Reps. Frank Boykin and Henry B. Steagall were absent.

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Hobbs insisted that evidence had not been given to prove Pickens to be a Communist. Hobbs quoted the Treasury Department as saying this was not so and that the FBI investigated Pickens and failed to find he was a Communist.

"Now, my colleagues," Hobbs pleaded, "we wrote the law, and the only law, for the guidance of the departments of the government in the procurement of personnel. It provides against paying the salary or wages of any person who advocates, or who is member of an organization that advocates, the overthrow of the government of the United States by force or violence.

That is the rule we laid down, the standard we set up. Is it fair to the Treasury Department, that has been so careful in its personnel procurement that only one out of its thousands of employes is even under suspicion, to set up one standard for its guidance then when they have fully complied with this requirement, refuse to comply with it ourselves?"

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Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Pickens Victim of Dies Committee 'Witchhunt'

FEB 13 1943

By NELL DODSON

WASHINGTON—Altho the Dies (*We Love adolf*) Committee refused Friday to write into the Treasury Appropriation Bill a restriction against paying the salaries of 40 government employes classified by Chairman Martin Dies of the House committee investigating un-American activities as "crackpot, radical, bureaucrats," William Pickens, Negro principal securities promotion specialist of the Treasury Department, is apparently out of his bread and butter as the result of a separate House vote which tentatively ordered that no funds be used to pay his $4,600 salary.

FEB 11 1943

The motion of Rep. Hendricks (D., Fla.) to withhold funds for "lynch law" because it gave the salaries of the 40 government employees named by the Dies Committee, among whom was Mary McLeod Bethune, Negro head of the National Youth Administration, was rejected on a "teller" vote of 111 to stop funds for his salary.

It was a different story in the Pickens' case. The vote was 163 to 111 to stop funds for his salary. Pickens was the only member of the Treasury Department named.

Meanwhile, the powerful coalition of Fish Republicans and anti-New Deal Democrats on the House Rules Committee got thru last week without prior notice, resolutions to extend the Dies Committee two more years, and create a special committee headed by anti-New Deal Rep. Howard Smith (D., Va.) with the power to investigate the activities of all governmental agencies. Smith would have the power to investigate any "action, rule, procedure, regulation, order or directive taken or promulgated by any agency of the Federal Government" if someone complained to him such action was "improper."

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DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

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Pickens Committee

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caused no end of comment and protest thruout the country. Thousands of individuals and organizations have already notified their Congressmen of opposition. 1,250 prominent Americans who are still convinced this country is a democracy. Dies Committee to the contrary, have called upon the House of Representatives to abolish the Dies group because its continuance will "interfere seriously with the prosecution of the war." The statement was released through the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, and pointed out that the Dies Committee has:

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- undermined the very foundations of national unity and violated our pledge that all loyal Americans, irrespective of their racial, religious or political beliefs shall be united in common struggle against the enemy;
- utilized its resources to obstruct the cooperation of the United Nations which is a prerequisite for victory;
- attempted to destroy the American labor movement which has made the war record of our free workers the pride of the nation;

FEB 13 1943

- deliberately suppressed information concerning the activities of Nazi cohorts in this country and gone out of its way to shield such axis propagandists as Pelley, Winrod, Viereck, Hudson, Kullgren, Sanctuary, Edmondson, True and many others now convicted or under indictment for sedition by the Government of the United States;
- utilized its Congressional prestige to continue an undemocratic, un-American and openly obstructionist campaign of vilification against thousands of the staunchest supporters of the war and of the democratic way of life, and campaigned equally viciously against government officials and employees who have been vigorous protectors of our national interest.

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HITLER'S CRONIES

In Monday's nation-wide syndicated column *In New York*, Walter Winchell who has been harrassing the Dies Committee for months with well-aimed verbal darts over the air and written darts via his column, wrote: "Hitler is losing on the ground in Russia, in the air over Germany, and on the sands of Africa. He seems to win only in Congress."

A recent magazine article by Herr Goebbels, stating the possibility of a Russian victory said: "Perhaps there are even in London a few clear-thinking men who could imagine what that would mean for England."

BULLETIN

WASHINGTON — The House of Representatives, Tuesday afternoon defeated the amendment to remove Dean Pickens, 267 to 136. Cong. Dawson (D.-Ill.) lone Negro House member, led the successful fight, received full support of the entire Illinois delegation.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

REVIEW EVIDENCE ON DEAN PICKENS

MAR 1 1943

WASHINGTON, Mar. 11—(ANP)—Documentary evidence collected by the FBI and the Dies committee was reviewed Saturday by members of a special House appropriations sub-committee.

Headed by Rep. Kerry of North Carolina, the group, behind closed doors, went over the material submitted concerning 10 of the accused, which includes William Pickens of the treasury department and three officials of the Federal Communications Commission.

Dies Demands Mass Firings

The Worker, New York, N.Y.
Daily
Daily Worker, N.Y., N.Y.
FEB 6 - 1943

By Frank Ryhlick
(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—For nearly three hours this afternoon the House was rocked by heated controversy over an almost unbelievable series of "lynch law" amendments designed to purge from government jobs some 39 persons smeared by Martin Dies last Monday.

The most flagrant of the amendments, all of which were offered to a Treasury-Post Office Department appropriations bill, would have ordered the immediate firing of all 39 persons, regardless of the fact that only one worked for an agency covered by the bill under consideration.

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This was beaten 153 to 146, after a bitter struggle in which a bi-partisan group of Democrats and Republicans, including some of the most conservative men in Congress, joined against a blood-thirsty coalition led by representatives of the Martin Dies-Ham Fish stripe.

A second amendment, aimed specifically at William Pickens, Negro promotion specialist in the War Savings Bond Division of the Treasury Department, was passed by a vote of 163-111. It would forbid the Treasury to use any of its appropriation for Pickens' salary.

Both of these amendments were sponsored by Joe Hendricks, a Democrat, from De Land, Fla., whose thin, pinched features give him a Goebbels-like appearance.

A third amendment was offered by Representative Dirksen, an Illinois Republican, who is a favorite of Chicago Tribune columns. His amendment would forbid the Treasury or Post Office from hiring any person discharged from and department because Congress passed an amendment to any appropriations bill barring use of the funds for his salary. This amendment carried by a vote of 144 to 45.

DIES BULLIES

Dirksen explained that he intended to offer the same amendment to every appropriation bill. At the same time, it was clear that in each appropriation bill an attempt will be made to deny compensation to employees of the particular agency who, like Pickens, were red-baited by the Dies Committee.

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By this means, Dirksen, Dies and Company will be able to drive smeared employees completely from the government service. Dirksen offered this amendment after piously explaining that he had to vote against the first Hendricks amendment because it was too "sweeping."

Martin Dies used the entire controversy this afternoon as a pressure move to intensify his long-standing witchhunt against government workers. When he lost on the first Hendricks amendment, he nevertheless forced influential members of the appropriations committee to agree to let him submit "evidence," to the various sub-committees on some 1,200 other government employees.

This was the list which the Department of Justice found to be almost entirely worthless.

George Bender, a powerful Republican leader from Ohio, who has taken win-the-war positions on the Tolan Committee and was an early advocate of a second front in Europe, was the first speaker against the initial Hendricks resolution.

Bender said he was a Republican, and had no sympathy with Communism, but that he had great sympathy for the fight led by the government of Russia and regarded the amendment as "most unfortunate." He pointed out that Pickens and Mary McLeod Bethune, another Dies victim, were Negro leaders who had done much for their people and the war effort.

Bender called upon the House to adopt in this critical hour "a sane, wise, tolerant and Christian point of view."

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"Next Sunday," he said, "there's going to be a celebration in Cleveland for Abraham Lincoln's birthday. I would not feel right at that celebration if I voted for this amendment today."

Representative Harold D. Cooley, conservative North Carolina Democrat, declared that as a lawyer he was compelled to challenge the right of Congress to legislate an American citizen out of any public office.

"It isn't a crime to be a Communist in America," he said.

Clarence Cannon, of Missouri, a "farm bloc" Democrat, bluntly described the Hendricks amendments as "lynchlaws."

OTHERS VOTE AGAINST

Woodrum of Virginia, an ultra-conservative poll tax Democrat, was moved to speak and vote against the amendments, although he proclaimed his support for the Dies Committee.

Vito Marcantonio, New York City Progressive, warned the House that by voting for this type of amendment it was aiding Hitler's campaign to convince the world that he was "crusading against Bolshevism."

FEB 6 - 1943

Republican minority leader Joe Martin, obviously aware of the possibility of public reaction against the lynch-law character of the amendments, voted against all of them. There were no roll call votes, but from the gallery it was possible to pick out a number of other Republicans voting against the amendments. They included Clare Booth Luce of Connecticut, Burdick of North Dakota and Kean of New Jersey.

The three-hour struggle revealed the lengths to which Dies, Fish and their supporters are willing to go in using red-baiting to split national unity.

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It revealed also that many conservative, pro-war elements can be split away from them when their tactics are recognized for their fascist character.

Dies Learns Talk Is Cheap

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Mar. 15.—Martin Dies, who has been smearing Government employes for years with loose charges of subversive activity, is finding his charges a lot harder to prove than to mouth.

Dies never has been called upon to prove any of his charges until the House about a month ago refused to fire Government employes on his say-so and set up a special committee to investigate them.

That Committee, headed by Rep. John H. Kerr (D., N. C.), refused to act on Dies' charges in the loose form they had been presented to the House, and demanded that he file them formally in shape to be submitted to the accused for rebuttal.

This must have come as a shock to the Texas investigator, because he and the staff of his Committee have been very slow in submitting the charges.

Although Dies claimed in the House weeks ago to have sufficient evidence to warrant the discharge of 39 Government employes, he so far has submitted his case against only three or four of them to the Kerr Committee. One of the few he has submitted is the case of William Pickens, a Negro employe of the Treasury Dept.

Dies' delay has not slowed up the investigation seriously, however, because the Kerr Committee has been having difficulty finding a capable staff to handle the inquiry. It has not begun review of any of the cases.

Committee members have given assurance that every one of the accused will have his day in court. In every case, they say, the Dies charges will be turned over to the person accused and, he will be given a chance to defend himself—a chance which none had before the Dies Committee.

NEGRO NAMED BIDDLE AIDE

Pittsburgh, Pa.
Courier

WASHINGTON, June 10—Attorney General Francis Biddle announced May 31 the appointment of Martin A. Martin, Danville, Va., as an associate attorney in the trial section, Criminal Division, U. S. Department of Justice.

Mr. Martin is the first Negro attorney to be assigned to this section. He graduated from Ohio State university, Howard Law school in 1938 and the same year was admitted to the Virginia Bar. As president of the Danville, Va., branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, he served as associate attorney in the appeal of the Odel

52c-1943
Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

RACE MAY LOSE RECORDER OF DEEDS OFFICE

MAY 2 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 29.—The office of recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia, headed by a Negro since 1869, is destined to pass into control of the district commissioners, under provisions in the district appropriation bill H.R. 2513, whch has been presented to Congress.

MAY 2 1943

The bill, which Congress may pass unless Negroes rally their opposition, slashes the personnel of the recorder's office and would transfer the handling of its accounts and the disbursing of its funds from that office to the district commissioners.

The appropriation for salaries will be reduced by $12,270, which would make compulsory the discharge of approximately 10 employes who cannot obtain jobs in the district government because of the commissioners' anti-racial policy.

During the 60 years which the office has been filled by Negroes, such distinguished persons as the following have filled the office: Frederick Douglass, B. K. Bruce, William Monroe Trotter, C. H. J. Taylor, John C. Dancey, Henry Lincoln Johnson and the present recorder, Dr. William J. Thompkins.

The office is the only independent bureau of the government which remains under Negro handling and control. It is the only assignment which is appointed by the President and confirmable by the Senate and is directly responsible to the President.

SAVE THE RECORDER'S OFFICE

Bitter Dose Of Segregation Be-ing Prescribed For Negroes By "Brass Hats" Of Air Force

The office of Recorder of Deeds in Washington is one of the few remain-leaders aspire. The position of Re-leadrs aspired. The position of Recorder has been the reward for many political leaders for their service to the party whichever one was in power.

Such prominent men as Frederick Douglass, B. K Bruce, William Monroe Trottler, C. H. J. Taylor, John C. Dancey, Henry Lincoln Johnson and the present encumbant Dr. William J. Thompkins have occupied this post.

This office is under the direct control of the federal government, its head appointed by the president. The district commissioners who govern the city and who themselves are appointed by the president have no jurisdiction over the office.

Under an appropriation bill now pending in Congress, the control of that office would be transferred to the district commissioners and of course they would have the right to select the personnel.

For years Negroes held the position of Register of the Treasury. This job we no longer have. And we won't have the job as Recorder of Deeds long because if the transfer is made, the appointing authority would be those commissioners who are not responsible to the voters.

This office has been run in a clean-cut business like manner all these years. No charges of incompetency or dishonesty have ever been made; so why change? Just to satisfy the whims of some Congressmen who dislike the idea of keeping a Negro at the head of an interracial forces as this office enjoys.

This provision in the bill should be defeated for it constitutes a backward step in our effort to integrate Negro employees, for that office has been a shining example of the fact that Negroes and whites can work together peacefully under a Negro boss in white collar jobs.

D. C.
Bee
Chicago, Ill.

Hastie Sold Short.

FEB 7 1943

THE continued rebuffs accorded Judge William H. Hastie by the War Department during his tenure of office as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War were insults to the colored people of this country.

The statement explaining his reason for resigning leaves no doubt that Judge Hastie's position was given less respect than that of an office boy. An office boy does know what is going on in an office and is especially cognizant of what is taking place on the matters regarding his own responsibilities.

FEB 7 1943

Judge Hastie was ostensibly the representative of the 13,000,000 colored people in the War Department. It was his duties, it was thought, to look out for the interests of Negroes and to aid in reducing racial discrimination in the armed forces. The fact that Judge Hastie was not even consulted on matters of policies materially concerned with the welfare of colored people in the armed forces belies the good faith of the War Department toward the Negroes of this country.

FEB 7 1943

Unfortunately, the Negroes have been without the services of one of its greatest citizens at a time when they needed him most, while the War Department shelved him in a sphere of anominity. Judge Hastie was ridiculously undersold.

FEB 1943

As the War Department is going to fill the vacancy it is our hope and the hope of the American Negroes that a man be selected who knows the pulse beat of the colored people and has the convictions to fight for their full and equal rights in the military services for this nation. It is hoped that Judge Hastie's successor will be given a voice consistent with the problems that face the colored people in their triumphant efforts to become fully integrated with the armed forces.

FEB 7 1943

We ask no more—we are entitled to no less.

Reactionaries Try To Take Jobs From Noted Negro Aides

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

Liberals Of Both Political Parties Come To Defense of Popular officials of Treasury Department; Demand He Be Given Chance To Defend Himself Before Being Fired

Feb. 19, 1943

Washington, D. C.,—(Special)—Reactionary Republicans from the North as well as the South joined with Southern Democrats, led by Congressman Martin Dies of Texas, in the Drive to 'eliminate' William Pickens, brilliant Negro leader, as a worker, in the Government service but failed to accomplish their purpose. Congress voted to ignore the pleas of Congressman Martin Dies of Texas, Democrat and John Jennings of Tennessee, Republicans and others and permit Pickens to face those who accused him with being a Communist in a Committee hearing.

Protests from liberals all over the nation caused the House to change its mind about firing Pickens forthwith.

Feb. 19, 1943

DEFEND COLOR ISSUE IN PICKEN CASE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18 (ANP)—Defending the color issue in the Pickens case, Rep. Charles I. Gifford of Massachusetts said:

"I did not know anything about William Pickens until this debate opened. I did not even know he was a colored man. I do not like the idea of bringing the color issue upon the floor in this manner. Most of us did not know Mr. Pickens was a colored man. That should have nothing to do with it. Why drag the red herring across the trail? We love the colored man. I wish he was not colored, because my feeling is more favorable toward him in that he may have done something of which he was not fully conscious, in his enthusiasm to help his race."

As part of the day long debate, Rep. Knutsen of Minnesota added a different note when he declared:

"I voted for the creation of the Dies committee and for its several extensions, I expect to vote for another extension, because I feel it is doing a necessary work. But there is an angle to this question that I would like to discuss in the brief time that has been allotted to me, and that should not be overlooked.

"This body is made up of 435 men and women, of whom 434 belong to the Caucasian race and one to the Negro race. I voted to expel from or to prevent any government bureau employing the 38 communists Chairman Dies read to the house one day last week. I am wondering what the country will say when the people find out that we rejected, by a small margin, the proposal to place an embargo upon their employment in government service, but that when the name of this man Pickens came up, a colored man, a descendant from people who were brought here in servitude, this great body singled out a poor colored man for punishment and practically gave what amounts to awhitewash to the 37 white companions who were equally or more guilty. I understand all these fine distinctions, or I hope I do, but the cold fact remains that we voted on Friday to bar from public employment one poor colored man and we refused to take similar action with 37 white men. My God, that is almost lynch law. It is what is termed shotgun justic out in my

War Departme

Aide Resigns In Stirring Protest

Assistant To Secretary Stimson Could Not Stomach Bitter Dose Of Segregation Being Prescribed For Negroes By "Brass Hats" Of Air Force

Feb. 19 1943

Hitherto unpublished revelations of what is going on be-

hind the scenes in Washing-n to enforce segregation as a national policy, while the battle to extend the "four freedoms" to people everywhere in the world rages, are contained in the plain, unvarnished story Judge Hastie relates as justification for stepping down and out from the high-salaried position he has held for the past two years in the War Department.

While admitting that Negroes are being given a bitter pill by their government, Judge Hastie challenges the Negro man in uniform to "grit his teeth, square his shoulders and do his best as a soldier, confident that there are millions of Americans outside the armed services who will never cease fighting to remove every racial barrier and every humiliating practice which confronts him."

Judge Hastie's full statement is as follows:

Statement of William H. Hastie, Recently Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War

"Reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the Army Air Forces in matters affecting Negroes were the immediate cause of my resignation as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War.

"The Army Air Forces are growing in importance and independence. In the post war period they may become the greatest single component of the armed services. Biased policies and harmful practices established in this branch of the Army can all too easily infect other branches as well. The situation had become critical. Yet, the whole course of my dealings with the Army Air Forces convinced me that further expression of my views in the form of recommendations within the Department would be futile. I, therefore, took the only course which can, I believe, bring results. Public opinion is still the strongest force in American life.

"To the Negro soldier and those who influence his thinking, I say with all the force and sincerity at my command that the man in uniform must grit his teeth, square his shoulders and do his best as a soldier, confident that there are millions of Americans outside of the armed services, and more persons than he knows in high places within the military establishment who will never cease fighting to remove every racial barrier and every humiliating practice which now confront him. But only by being at all times a first class soldier can the man in uniform help in this battle which shall be fought and won.

"When I took office, the Secretary of War directed that all questions of policy and important proposals relating to Negroes should be referred to my office for comment or approval before final action. In December, 1940, the Air Forces referred to me a plan for a segregated training center for Negro pursuit pilots at Tuskegee. I expessed my entire disagreement with the plan, giving my reasons in detail. My views were disregarded. Since then, the Air Command has never on its own initiative submitted any plan or project to me for comment or recommendation. What information I obtained, I had to seek out. Where I made proposals or recommendations, I volunteered them.

This situation reached its climax in late December, 1942, when I learned through Army press releases sent out from St. Louis and from the War Department in Washington that the Air Command was abom to establish a segregated officer candidate school at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, to train Negro officers for ground duty with the Army Air Forces. Here was a proposal for a radical departure from present Army practice, since the officer candidate training program is the one large field where the Army is eliminating racial segregation. Moreover, I had actually written to the Air Command several weeks earlier in an attempt to find out what was brewing at Jefferson Barracks. The Air Command replied as late as December 17, 1942, giving not even the slightest hint of any plan for a segregated officer candidate school. It is inconceivable to me that consideration of such a project had not then advanced far enough for my office to have been consulted, even if I had not made specific inquiry. The conclusion is inescapable that the Air Command does not propose to inform, much less counsel, with this office about its plans for Negroes.

"But the reactionary policies and discriminatory practices of the Air Forces are much more serious than the matter of ignoring my office. It should be understood that from the beginning the Air Command did not want Negro personnel. Resistance bred of that attitude has been met ever since. Moreover, even now the Air Command views the use of the Negro as an "experiment" designed to determine whether he can do this or that in the field of aviation. This attitude is the result of wholly unscientific notions that race somehow controls a man's capacity and aptitudes. The tragedy is that by not wanting the Negro in the first place and by doubting his capacity, the Air Command has committed itself psychologically to courses of action which themselves become major obstacles to the success of Negroes in the Air Forces.

"The Negro program of the Air Forces began some two years ago with the organization of several so-called "Aviation Squadrons (Separate)" These units, now greatly increased in number, were organized to serve no specific military need. They have never had a defined function. Except as individual commanders on their own initiative have found some military functon for particular small groups of men, the characteristic assignment of the "Aviation Squadron (Separate)" has been the performance of odd jobs of common labor which arise from time to time at air fields. There are no equivalent white organizations. "Aviation Squadrons (Separate)" would never have come into existence except for the necessity of making some provision for Negro enlisted men in the Air Forces. Reluctant to use Negroes at all, the Air Command started off on the wrong foot by organizing some Negro labor units, while every effort was being made to recruit white volunteers with mechanical ability for skilled service.

"Somewhat later, in order to provide enlisted technicians for the new air base at Tuskegee, a few Negro soldiers were accepted for technical training at Chanute Field where a large school is maintained. The men were well received and did excellent work. I urged the importance of continuing such training of Negroes in this existing unsegregated school. But the program stopped with the first group. The Air Forces then made efforts to set up segregated technical training at Tuskegee or elsewhere. Difficulties were encountered. Meanwhile, successive classes of Negro pilots were being trained, but no technical schooling of supporting ground crew members was in progress. Thus, even the segregated program got badly out of balance in the effort to effect its extension. The prospect is that in 1943, even with a tardy resumption of technical ground training, Negro pilots will be ready before and faster than adequate numbers of trained ground crews are available.

"The Air Forces also are rejecting Negro applicants who wish to become weather officers or officers in other highly specialized technical fields. A few such men were trained for Tuskegee. But for a period of more than six months, all qualified Negro candidates have had their completed applications returned to them with the information that the Air Forces need no more Negro weather officers. The Air Forces, however, do need large numbers of additional weather officers so badly that white volunteers are being solicited and accepted, despite a general policy against voluntary enlistments in the Army. Yet, it is unthinkble to those in authority that a Negro officer can fill such a position except at Tuskegee. The same situation exists in armament and engineering, both ground specialties for which the Air Forces have been accepting cadets generally, but refusing Negroes.

Feb. 5, 1943

"To date, all Negro applicants, a number of them well and fully qualified, for appointment as Army service pilots have been rejected. Two applicants were actually instructed to report for training. They did so but were sent home as soon as it was discovered that they were Negroes. I am advised that this matter is receiving further study. The simple fact is that the Air Command does not want Negro pilots flying in and out of various fields, eating, sleeping and mingling with other personnel, as a service pilot must do in carrying out his various missions.

"Negro medical officers in the Air Forces are getting only part of the special training in aviation medicine which is available. They are not admitted to the principal school of aviation medicine at Randolph Field. Even the branch school program in which it is represented that Negro officers share without discrimination is in fact discrimination. Many white officers enrolled at branch school of aviation medicine have the opportunity of full time resident study. The Negro officer is permitted to commute periodically from his home station at Tuskegee for work at the Maxwell Field branch school. Such grudging partial tender of makeshift schemes may be expected to continue unless a genuine change of racial attitude and policy occurs in the Air Command.

"While Negro trainees and cadets at the Tuskegee Air Base have done well from a strictly technical point of view, they have suffered such demoralizing discrimination and segregation that, in my judgment, the entire future of the Negro in combat aviation is in danger. Men cannot be humiliated over a long period of time without a loss of combat efficiency.

"Specifically, Negro and white officers serving in Tuskegee in the common enterprise of training Negroes for air combat have separate messes. They are not permitted to have quarters in the same building. Separate toilet facilities have been provided. If the group of white officers at Tuskege insist upon this—and I have no evidence that they do—they are psychologically unsuited to train Negroes for combat. If they do not so insist, the racial attitude of the local commander or of higher authority is all the more apparent.

"Despite original design to advance Negro officers and to place them in posts of administrative responsibility at Tuskege as rapidly as they should qualify, that design is not being carried out in the post administration, except in the station hospital. Feb. 5, 1943

"Early in the history of the Tuskegee project, a Negro soldier guarding a warehouse was disarmed and arrested by civilian authorities because he had challenged a white civilian. From then on friction continued. A new commander was appointed. He disarmed Negro military policemen assigned to patrol duty in the town of Tuskegee. A recent member of the Alabama state police force was assigned to Tuskegee as an Army officer with duties related to his civilian experience. The Negro soldier was embittered, but the prejudiced community was somewhat mollified.

"Fundamentally, it seems to me the Air Command has either failed to comprehend or failed to care that its policies and practices are tending to tear down rather than build up the pride, dignity and self respect which Negro soldiers, like all other soldiers must possess if they are to achieve maximum combat efficiency. Military men agree that a soldier should be made to feel that he is the best man, in the best unit in the best Army in the world. When the Air Command shall direct its policies and practices so as to help rather than hinder the development of such spirit among its Negro soldiers, it will be on the right road."

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.
Feb. 19, 1943

DIXIE SOLON MAKES APOLOGY; HE CALLED MR. PICKENS "MISTER"

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 18—(ANP)—Fearful that he might offend his constituents, Rep. Joe Hendricks of Florida hastened to amend his statement of last week, in congress Monday.

Said Joe:

"In the first place, there has been a lot of talk here about discrimination against the colored race. I say to you that any man coming from the South knows that a Southerner does not refer to a colored man as 'mister.' I did not even know he was a colored man. I got in the habit of saying 'Mr. Pickens' and him I did not even know he was a colored man and this statement on the floor about that statement on the floor

Goodbye, Mr. Pickens

Washington, D. C.

The Negro race has at least one "Quisling"—William Pickens. His letter to the Washington Post published in the Sunday edition of August 8, with editorial comment, is proof sufficient of that statement.

Termed a "distinguished Negro leader" by the Washington Post, if Mr. Pickens was ever entitled to that prefix he has certainly lost it now. His usefulness both as a leader of his race and in his present position of selling war bonds and stamps to Negroes is at an end.

Any one among us who is willing to sell the race out, and who uses the white press to advertise the sale is promptly termed by the white press as a "Negro leader." Any other type the Post terms "vociferous." The Negro press is "incendiary."

Mr. Pickens, in his blast against his own people not only does harm to the Negro but he has hurt the war effort. He is employed at $6,400 a year to sell war bonds and stamps to the people he publicly and in the white press condemns. Without considering the fact that his job as a salesman would be made more difficult by attacking his prospective customers, Mr. Pickens thought only of getting himself out of the crack he is in with the "vociferous" Dies and the "incendiary" Dies Committee.

Washington Tribune

The Negro press, and the people who Mr. Pickens blasphemes, were the first to come to his defense when the Dies Committee charged him with being a Communist and un-American. It was due totally to the pressure we put behind Congress that it reversed its former action, which, had it been approved by the Senate, would have brought about the dismissal of Mr. Pickens.

In releasing Mr. Pickens from the snares of the Dies Committee, no race was sold out; no individual was sold out; it was done in a dignified and diplomatic manner, without offense even to the Dies Committee.

Whether Mr. Pickens knows it or not, Mr. Dies does not believe he is a Communist; it is sufficient to Mr. Dies that he is a Negro, and a Negro should not be getting $6,400 a year from his Government. That is the charge against Mr. Pickens.

The Pickens' letter to the Post was unnecessary as much as it was inflamatory. It was not necessary in order for him to square himself with the Dies Committee, nor was it necessary for him to make himself secure in his present position.

While he may have squared himself with the white reactionary press, and Southern rebels in Congress, he has torn his britches with Negroes throughout the country, and has rendered himself useless to the Government so far as selling bonds is concerned.

Unless the Government just wants to give Mr. Pickens some money, it can dismiss him right now. We abhor Quislings in our midst even as does any other race. We will not patronize a Quisling, regardless of what he is selling.

The Negro press "incendiary" or not, is blazing with headlines this week of the Pickens sell-out. By Saturday morning, every Negro in the Country will know Pickens, not as the former field agent of the NAACP; not as the advocator of segregation in our Army Air Corps; not as the bond salesman, but as the Negro Quisling, who would sell out an entire race of fifteen million to square one black face with the ignoble Dies Committee.

Goodbye, Dean Pickens! Goodbye forever!

Thomas C. Hall Is Sworn in as P.O. Solicitor

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

Thomas C. Hall, New York attorney, succeeded the late Ralph Mizelle as ranking colored employee in the U.S. Post Office Department on Monday when he was sworn in as assistant solicitor in the office of Vincent Miles, solicitor general.

The oath of office was administered to Mr. Hall by H. W. Bresnahan, Post Office Department personnel officer.

Attending the ceremonies were Mr. Miles, Kilroy Aldrich, first assistant to the postmaster general; Jesse M. Donaldson, chief post office inspector; Daniel Kelley, hearing officer; Harold F. Jones, principal attorney;

NAPE V-Prexy Present

W. D. Arnold, welfare director, NAPE; Raymond A. C. Young, national vice-president, NAPE; Sidney M. Jackson, assistant chief clerk, Railway Mail Service; W. C. O'Brien, chief of the fraud and espionage section; E. W. T. Whitelock, president of District 2, NAPE, and Lafayette Ford, national president of the NAPE.

Mr. Hall, who formerly maintained a law office at 200 W. 135th Street, is the son of the first colored man to hold the office of postmaster in South Jacksonville, Fla.

He received his early training at the Episcopal Parochial School there, graduated from the Edward Waters College and received his law degree from the New York University School of Law.

He is married, resides at 137-9 W. 142nd Street, New York City, and is the father of four children, one of whom is serving with the U.S. Army.

Judge Armond Scott Starting 3rd Term In D. C. Courtroom Packed For Ceremonies

Atlanta, Georgia
AUG 4 - 1943
Daily World

WASHINGTON—(ANP)— Warmly eulogized by his colleagues and honored by various citizen's group of the district, Justice Armond W. Scott, of the municipal court of the District of Columbia was sworn in for his third term last Friday this time for 10 years.

It was a packed courtroom packed with friends and spectators, and filled with flowers in which the oath of office was taken by Judge Scott. Chief Justice George P. Barse of the municipal court. He told of the work Judge Scott has done in the two terms already served by him since coming on the bunch in 1935, for two four year terms.

Witnessing the ceremonies were the other nine members of the court, all in their robes, three judges of the intermediate appellate court U. S. Dist. Atty. Edward Currant and corporation counsel for the district, Richard B. Keats.

Nineteen floral pieces were received including ones from the Federation of Civic Associations, Morning Star lodge of the Elks, Mothers and Daughters club, Mt. Bethel Baptist church Labor Day Bunch, James E. Walker post American Legion, and Justice Helen K. Raedy, lone woman judge of the municipal court.

Named Prosecutor

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



ANDREW HOWARD, Washington attorney and nephew of Perry W. Howard, National Republican Committeeman from Mississippi, who was appointed this week as assistant to the District Attorney, by District Attorney Edward M. Curran.

Bethune, Pickens' Jobs Safe

Journal and Guide

Capital Observer Predicts No Action On Dies Charges

Norfolk, Virginia

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (ANP)—It is quite unlikely that the cases against Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, director of Negro affairs with the liquidating National Youth Administration, and Dean William Pickens, War Bond salesman for the Treasury Department, both charged by the Dies committee with having engaged in subversive activities, will get an airing before December, and possible not before early next year, reports a Washington observer.

It will be recalled that when Congress sought to have the individuals, along with a group of others, cut off the government payrolls, on the recommendation of the Dies committee, the House Appropriations Committee appointed a sub-committee headed by Rep. Kerr (D) of North Carolina to take a closer look at the charges.

The Kerr committee went to work on the government employes, Gordon R. Watson, William E. Dodds Jr., and Robert Morss Lovett, and gave Congress enough reason to single them out in appropriation bills for a discontinuance of salaries.

The rider left it to the President to recommend them to the Senate for confirmation if he wanted them continued, and set November 15 as the deadline for filing the names.

ACTION UNLIKELY

The President, said this report, is not expected to do this. Meanwhile, at least Lovett has indicated that he intends to stay on the job and go into the courts for his salary. This will consume time, and according to a source close to the Kerr committee, that group will not move on any of the other cases until it has been determined by the courts just what the situation will be.

If the courts rule that Congress had acted without authority, this spokesman said, it may indicate that the Kerr committee would have no further work to do.



Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Mitchell Named Special Consultant to Stimson

The War Department has announced the appointment of Mr. Arthur W. Mitchell, of Petersburg, Va., as a special consultant to the Secretary of War Stimson, assigned to the Joint Army and Navy Committee on Welfare and Recreation.

Mr. Mitchell, who proferred his services, will make a study of facilities and programs for Negro soldiers in civilian communities in several southern states. It is contemplated that these surveys will be completed by the ex-congressman by the middle of January. Mr. Mitchell was the first Negro Democrat in Congress representing the Eigfith Illinois District.

Frank E. Hook, Joseph H. B. Evans Appointed As Heads Of F. E. P. C. Regional Office Four

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

WASHINGTON, D. C. Appointment of Frank E. Hook as Director of Region IV of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC) was anounced Saturday by Malcolm Ross, chairman.

Mr. Hook will assume his duties in Washington, D.C., which is the headquarters for both the national office and his region. He will be assisted by Joseph H. B. Evans, associate regional director of this area. Region IV consists of the State of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina and the District of Columbia.

Mr. Hook's appointment is expected to accelerate the adjustment of the present file of 169 active cases of alleged discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin.

A veteran of the last war, Mr. Hook served as Representative from the 12th District of Michigan for four terms during the 74th to 77th Congresses. The new Director was born in L'Anse, Mich. He graduated from Valparaiso University in Indiana, where he received an LLB degree in 1918, and was admitted to the Michigan bar in 1924 at Wakefield. He served as city commissioner and municipal judge in Wakefield. He is a member of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars. Since leaving Congress, he has been practicing law in Detroit. He is married and has two daughters presently attending school in Washington, D. C.

A native of Washington, D.C., Mr. Evans was formerly Regional Negro Affairs Officer for the National Youth Administration (NYA). In government service since 1934, he has served as research supervisor, Federal Emergency Relief Administration; executive assistant, Department of Interior; social economist, Resettlement Administration; Social Economist, Farm Security Administration, and chief of Negro Labor Relations Section of NYA. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan, member of Phi Beta Kappa, taught in the public school system of St. Louis, Mo., for ten years and before returning to Washington was in the insurance business at Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. Evans is a member of the Committee of Management of the 12th Street Branch, Y.M.C.A.; member of the Budget Committee of the Community War Fund; national secretary of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; member of the Committee on Nominations for the Bishop of Washington in the Episcopal Church; and a national officer of Sigma Pi Phi.

Plain Talk

By E. A. CARTER

COLONIAL STATUS

The persistent reports that have come out of Washington about the proposed creation of a so-called super committee to deal with problems affecting colored people in America are disturbing in spite of formal denials. For a large number of highly intelligent citizens of both races believe that some such committee is already in existence, though possessing no official status. This belief is strengthened by the character of the plans and decisions which are made concerning us in various divisions of the federal government, and by the evident reluctance which high governmental officials have in making up their minds to treat citizens of color the way other citizens are treated. One need not mention the moves and counter-moves, mostly backward, which have marked the War Department and the Navy Department in their utilization of Negro manpower for the armed services, nor the weird decisions that have come out of the office of the Attorney General, nor the fantastic restrictions emanating from the Federal Housing Authority, nor even the shadow boxing of the War Manpower Commission. Wherever one looks there is striking evidence of attempts to pull in two opposite directions at the same time, to recognize our citizenship rights in theory but actually to make concessions to race prejudice here, and to reactionary and undemocratic racial attitudes there.

For a long time there has been a tendency apparent in Washington to treat the Negro as a colonial. This idea has had for many years the sanction of some well known college professors who are perfectly honest but who despair of ever bringing complete equality to the Negro. The creation of such a super-commission composed [illegible] would

NOV 13 1943
NOV 20 1943
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AUG 28 1943
AUG 28 1943

JUDGE A. W. SCOTT IN 3RD TERM

Chicago, Ill. See

AUG 8 - 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 5—Warmly eulogized by his colleagues and honored by various citizens' groups of the district Judge Armond W. Scott, of the municipal court of the District of Columbia, was sworn in for his third term last Friday, this time for ten years.

AUG 8 - 1943

It was a packed courtroom—packed with friends and spectators, and filled with flowers—in which the oath of office was taken by Judge Scott. He was sworn in by Chief Justice George P. Barse of the municipal court. He told of the work Judge already served by him since coming on the bench in 1935, for two four year terms.

Witnessing the ceremonies were the other nine members of the court, all in their robes, three judges of the intermediate appellate court, U. S. District Atty. Edward Curran, and corporation counsel for the district, Richard B. Keats.

AUG 8 - 1943

Nineteen floral pieces were received including ones from the Federation of Civic Associations, Morning Star Lodge of the Elks, Mothers and Daughters club, Mt. Bethel Baptist church, Labor Day Bunch, James E. Walker post of American Legion, and Justice Ellen K. Raedy, lone woman judge of the municipal court.

Philadelphia Tribune

Finley Wilson Consultant In Treasury Dept.

Philadelphia, Pa.

AUG 7 - 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. ---The Treasury Department has announced the appointment of J. Finley Wilson, Grand Exalted Ruler of the IBPOE of W, as a consultant in the Inter-racial Section of the national organization unit of the War Finance Staff. He will help promote the Third War Loan Drive, which opens September 9, among fraternal groups. He has already begun his new duties.

AUG 7 - 1943

"The Grand" as he is affectionately known to his friends is expected to tour the country

Recorder Of Deeds Gets Salary Boost

St. Louis, Missouri Argus

OCT 1943

OCT 8 - 1943

Dr. William J. Thompkins Now Receives $8000 A Year

WASHINGTON, D. C.— The House has passed the bill increasing the salary of the Recorder of Deeds from $6000 to $8000 a year.

In recommending passage of the bill, the House Committtee on the District of Columbia stated in its report that the position would pay higher salary if filled by white incumbent and that it was the sense of the committee that no taint of discrimination should be attached in any way to any salaries paid in or under th egovernment of the District of Columbia.

Dr. William J. Thompkins of Kansas City, Mo. is the Recorder of Deeds which position he has held for the past 12 years.

52c-1943
Weekly Review
Birmingham. Ala.

Dies Says Pickens And Bethune 'Red'

Feb. 20, 1943

DIES TELLS CONGRESS HIS FRIENDSHIP FOR NEGROES THEN PINS RED LABEL ON PICKENS, BETHUNE; SAYS A. CLAYTON POWELL WANTS HIM ASSASSINATED

Feb. 20, 1943

WASHINGTON, Feb. — (ANP)—Martin Dies, representative from Texas who is at the capital helping Hitler fight Red Russia, described himself as a "friend of the Negro" before congress Monday before listing 40 "Communist crackpots," among them Dean William Pickens and Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune. This is the second time that the head of the Dies committee has singled out the two distinguished leaders as "dangerous Red radicals."

Dies painted himself as pro-Negro when he told of defending a Negro named Ben Wilkes in Texas when no other lawyer would go into court for him. Wilkes had been indicted as an accessory to crime after his son had killed three white men and Dies defendde him and protected him against any possibility of lynching," according to the story.

The Texan also claims to be one of the few men in his state to fight the Ku Klux Klan when the hooded tribe was in power there. He said he stumped against the Klan throughout the state and for his fight against it was burned in effigy and his law firm boycotted by that group.

Dies also took a shot at Negro newspapers and their fights for social equality. Speaking of one New York newspaper, he said:

"In the People's Voice not long ago, A. Clayton Powell, a Negro Communist, advocated that I be assassinated—that my death was desirable as Hitler's. Immediately other publications took it up and throughout the Negro press there was a most vicious denunciation, not only of me but of congress.

"What do they hope to gain by that? We in our country live in peace with the Negro; we respect him, for he has contributed much to the progress of the country. I have made hundreds of speeches in this country, and many speeches I have said to the American people that the great majority of the Negroes are loyal, patriotic American citizens."

His accusations against the two leaders were stated as follows:

"Now take the case of William Pickens, who is principal securities promotion specialist for the treasury department at a salary of 5,600. Pickens signed a manifest in defense of the notorious Communist Sam Darcy. Pickens was vice chairman of the American League Against War and Fascism, which the attorney general branded as subversive. He was also a contributor to the Communist party's New Masses. He was a sponsor of the Greater New York Emergency Conference on Inalienable Rights, a section of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties which the attorney general also found to be subversive. Pickens was a sponsor of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign-Born, a speaker for the United States Congress against War, a sponsor of the American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom.

Here is the case of Mary McLeod Bethune who is employed by the National Youth Administration at a salary of $6,250. Mary Bethune was publicly and prominently affiliated with four of the organizations which the attorney general has branded as subversive. She was national vice chairman of the American League for Peace and Democracy. The other three subversive organizations with which she was affiliated were the American Youth Congress, the National Negro congress, and the Washington Committee for Democratic Action."

On the occasion of a previous attack both Dean Pickens and Mrs. Bethune issued statements denying all allegations made by the Texan.

The other attacks were levelled at the same 38 other persons, white, holding important government positions.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

Martin Dies In Tirade Against Negro Leaders

D. C.

Texas Demagogue Calls Pickens And Mrs. Bethune "Reds" And Knocks Press

Feb. 12, 1943

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11—(ANP)—Martin Dies, representative from Texas who is at the capital helping Hitler fight Red Russia, described himself as a "friend of the Negro" before congress Monday before listing 40 "Communist crackpots," among them Dean William Pickens and Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune. This is the second time that the head of the Dies committee has singled out the two distinguished leaders as "dangerous Red radicals."

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The Informer

America Comes 1st To Pickens

Feb. 20, '43

By Frank Marshall Davis
(For ANP)

Because Dean William Pickens is too American, he may be crucified for the second time within a year.

First By NAACP

First it was the NAACP that failed Pickens to the cross because Pickens loved America so well that he wanted Negroes and whites to stand united against the axis foes even though it meant easing the fight against discrimination here at home. To Pickens, America comes first.

And now congress may prepare a new Golgotha for the distinguished leader because Pickens believed so strongly in the dream of American democracy that he once aided many liberal organizations formed to bring full democracy to America.

In other word, according to the NAACP board of directors Dean Pickens is too conservative because he would save America at all costs. But if you listen to Martin Dies and certain other of Hitler's helpers in congress, the highest ranking Negro war bond sales official is a dangerous radical bent on destroying America at all costs.

It's obvious that somebody's wrong. Pickens can't be a stooge for Stalin and a me-too-boss Uncle Tom at the same time. It doesn't make sense

Feb. 20, '43

Traveler

For years Pickens has traveled throughout America, preaching the doctrine of Americanism above all. He praised Fort Huachuca and the physical installation of the Tuskegee Army Flying school. He hurled the cry of traitor at those Dusky-Americans who wanted the race question settled before they would aid in the war effort.

On the open platform he has told thousands of Americans, both black and white, that as much as he hated Mississippi he would give his life blood to save it because Mississippi was part of America. No intelligent Negro can have greater love for our nation than that.

2-20-43

But because Pickens is intelligent and a brilliant thinker, he has fought consistently for democracy. You see, Pickens has the crazy idea that the Declaration of Independence and the federal constitution should mean just what they say, that a Negro should be accorded the full rights and privileges to which h eis theoretically entitled as a citizen of this great democratic citizen Therefore, because he used every means and every organization possible to further the Negro's fight for full Americanism, he is Un-American.

2-20-43

Of course Pickens was not wise in his choice of associates. Since he never was identified with the Ku Klux Klan, he could not aspire to the Supreme court bench with the blessing of Dies; since he did not work with the German American bund and similar Nazi agencies, he did not have the companionship of congressmen who used their whole influence in congress to help such groups distribute pro-fascist propaganda

Makes Mistake

Pickens made the mistake of believing that all Americans were interested in the Russian approach to race relations. Russia, in contrast to America, has thoroughly investigated Pickens and knew he was being used by anti-Pickens conclave before he knew he was being

Amsterdam-Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Bill Imperils Last Race Job

House May Merge

for his federal appointment. They considered Pickens by himself about his activities. Martin Dies by himself better sleuth part time Edgar Hoover and the of G-Men professionally.

Recorder's Functions

Apr. 24, '43

WASHINGTON, (Special)—The last remaining high position held by a Negro in the Federal government is about to be taken away. If H. R. 2513 which has just been presented to Congress, passes in its entirity, the office of Recorder of Deeds will be put under control of the Commissioner for the District of Columbia.

The Recorder of Deeds Office has been under Negro leadership for more than 60 years. Among the distinguished persons who have held the office were, Frederick Douglass, the first Negro appointed; B. K. Bruce, William Monroe Trotter, C. H. J. Taylor, John C. Dancey, Henry Lincoln Johnson and the present incumbent, Dr. William J. Thompkins.

Provision for the transfer of the office to the District Commissioner is contained in the District Appropriations bill (H. R. 2513).

The bill provides that, "funds appropriated herein and hereafter for the Office of Recorder of Deeds shall be drawn from the treasury of the United States only on requisitions approved by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia and disbursed by the disbursing officer of the District of Columbia upon vouchers previously audited and approved by the auditor of the District of Columbia.

The appropriation for salaries is reduced by $12,270 which would make it compulsory to discharge approximately ten employees who cannot obtain jobs in District of Columbia because of the Commissioners' anti-racial policy.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Hastie's Assistant Is Acting War Aide

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The War Department last week announced the appointment of Truman K. Gibson, Jr., of Chicago, Ill., as acting Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War.

Mr. Gibson succeeds Judge William H. Hastie, whose resignation became effective February 1.

Mr. Gibson has been serving as assistant to Judge Hastie.

BORN IN ATLANTA

He was born in Atlanta, Ga., in 1912, and was graduated from the University of Chicago School of law in 1935, being awarded a degree of doctor of Jurisprudence.

He engaged in the practice of law in Chicago until his appointment to the War Department in 1940. He served as executive director of the American Negro Exposition in Chicago until conclusion in September, 1940.

Succeeds Hastie



Truman M. Gibson, Jr., of Chicago, Ill., has been appointed acting Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War to succeed Judge William H. Hastie, who resigned February 1. He has been serving as assistant to Judge Hastie.

The Informer

"Black Cabinet" Assailed

Feb. 20, 1943

Washington, D. C.—Race relations advisers in New Deal agencies are under cross-fire—from Congress from the standpoint of justification for their positions and from thinking colored persons from the standpoint that these jobs represent only token recognition of colored people in the executive branch of the Government.

Congressional gunning for race relations advisers grew out of the belief of reactionary members of the House that these Federal jobholders have sought to eliminate race segregation from Government projects.

On the other hand, growing opposition to race relations advisers is coming from colored people because of increasing evidence that in many instances some of these jobholders are doing a disservice to colored people by offering palliatives for race discrimination and segregation.

Moreover, colored people are beginning to think that they should receive some appointments to statutory jobs, including "Little Cabinet" offices.

The attitude of some members of Congress toward race relations advisers was reflected in the hearings on the Independent Offices Appropriations Bill before a House Appropriations subcommittee, which were recently made public. These hearings also show the limited scope of the authority of these race relations advisers.

Herbert Emmerich, commissioner of the Federal Housing Authority, testified that the function of race relations advisers in that agency is to assist "in such problems as we refer to them in connection with racial housing where there are minority groups, particularly Negroes."

He said they "assist us on such questions as the location of projects, or management policies with regard to those projects. Their functions certainly are not those of advising us on the amicable relations under one roof."

A review of recent occupancy reports available in the central office of the Federal Public Housing Authority indicates that there are only twenty-four projects in the United States in which there is mixed occupancy of colored and white people.

In all of those cases, the projects are owned or leased by local housing authorities and the occupancy pattern has been established according to local custom upon the determination of local groups. There are no projects which are directly operated by the Federal Public Housing Authority in which there is mixed occupancy.

After Mr. Emmerich had been questioned about race relations advisers by Representative Joe Starnes, Democrat, of Alabama, to make certain that there was no misunderstanding about it being the duty of race relations advisers to follow established policy, and not to institute or influence policy, he had the following note inserted:

"I would like to make it clear that we regard the basic purpose of the Racial Relations Office as being to assist us in averting possible racial difficulties. We feel that it is part of our job to provide housing for minority groups who are being brought in for essential war work and we are trying to provide this housing at the right time and in the proper locations.

"In its work, the Racial Relations Office is directed to follow the policies established by the Administrator and the Commissioner. It is my feeling that many racial difficulties can be avoided by giving proper consideration to the racial factors at the time when the sites are being selected and the projects planned. Thus, at the time of site selection, we want to get all the facts regarding community patterns and local customs."

Race relations advisers in the Federal Public Housing Authority follows:

Frank S. Horne, chief, $5.600 a year; Corienne K. Robinson, senior racial relations adviser, $4,600; Herman A. Washington, senior racial relations adviser, $3,800; James A. Weiseger, associate racial relations adviser, $3,200, and Mrs. Alice Hyman, associate racial relations adviser, $3,200.

Regional Offices

Henrly Lee Moon, regions I and II (New York and Boston), $3,800; Albert L. Thompson, region IV (Atlanta), $3,800; DeHart Hubbard, region V (Cleveland), $3,800; William E. Hill, regions VI and VII (Chicago and Kansas City), $3,800, and Maceo Smith, region VII (Fort Wort, Texas), $3,800.

In the National Housing Agency, of which John B. Blandford, Jr., is Administrator, the race relations advisers are Robert Rochon Taylor, chief consultant, $8,000 a year; Booker T. McGraw, assistant director and principal consultant, $5.600 a year, and Clarence R. Johnson, senior adviser, on loan from the War Manpower Commission, $4,600.

Testifying before the House Appropriations subcommittee, Mr. Blanford explained that the race relations advisers in his office could not, even if they wanted to do so, could not influence site selections and thereby break down restricted zones.

Historic Recorder's Post Under Fire By Dixie Bloc

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

WASHINGTON — Indications are that the office of the Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia, which has been headed by a Negro since 1869, will pass from Negro hands to the control of the District Commissioners, within the next 10 days.

Provisions calling for its transfer are contained in a new District Appropriations bill, which slashes among politicians and New Dealers the personnel of the office and have been warned that many votes places the handling of its accounts will be lost among colored constituand funds from the recorder to the ents if the changes are enacted. commissioners.

The office has been under Negro To transfer this function to the leadership for more than 60 years. municipal authorities would rid the The most distinguished names of office of its national importance the race have figured in the list.

APR 24 1943

ELKS' HEAD NAMED CONSULTANT

Savannah Ga
Tribune
Aug. 5

Washington D. C. Aug. 1—The Treasury Department an

of any Negro organization in the world.

It has already begun its new duties.

Mr. Wilson has been Grand Exalted Ruler of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World for more than 21 years. This organization has local lodges in almost every city and town in the United States, as well as affiliated lodges in Cuba, Panama, the British West Indies and in Several South American countries.

It has the largest membership

First Negro Seeks Office In History of Dade County

For the first time in Dade county history, a negro is seeking public office.

He is Sam B. Solomon, negro publisher and undertaker, who qualified with City Clerk Frank Kelly at city hall Saturday for the city commission race. He was the tenth to qualify.

Solomon broke into politics when elected by Republicans to represent the state at the last Republican national convention in Philadelphia.

Whether white Republicans will support him in the coming election was not known Saturday, as Wesley E. Garrison, chairman of the Republican executive committee for the county, said no action will be taken until Friday night.

"I didn't know that he had qualified, but I have heard some talk about it," Garrison said when asked if the party would support Solomon.

"I don't know who we will support for it is up to the executive committee to select the men. I have called a committee meeting for Friday night, and the matter will be discussed at that time."

Solomon qualified a few days after his publication, The Whip, carried a half-page letter from Garrison, as chairman of the Republican executive committee, strongly urging all negroes to register at once, setting out the procedure and listing the various places where registration books are located.

Also, on another page, there was a large display advertisement from Garrison's real estate company offering farm lands for sale.

APRIL 14 LAST DAY

At the last session of the state legislature a number of changes were made in city election laws, and when the amended law was adopted it eliminated the provision that candidates must be members of the white race. Until that time negroes were barred from qualifying as candidates.

The city clerk's office reported Saturday that between 1,000 and 2,000 negroes are registered and qualified to vote. The registration books are now in the 48 precincts and will remain there until April 13 when they will be reopened in the clerk office. They will remain open through April 20.

April 14 is the last day on which candidates may qualify. To date, those qualified include the three incumbents, Fred Hosea, Leonard K. Thomson and James A. Dunn, and Abe Aronovitz, John L. Manny, Jack Moore, Ivy T. Blount, John W. DuBose and Dr. Ralph B. Ferguson.

In the primary, which will be held May 4, the six men receiving the largest number of votes will participate in the run-off election of May 11. The two receiving the highest vote will receive four-year terms, and the third man will be elected for two years. Mayor C. H. Reeder and Commissioner R. C. Gardner were the high men in the election two years ago.

Solomon Runs 9th In Council Race

MAY 1 2 1943
Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

MIAMI.—(A N P)—Sam B. Solomon, first Negro Candidate for the city commission in Miami, polled what was regarded by old-timers as a surprisingly large vote in last week's election. The records showed that Solomon received a total of 1,253 votes running ninth in the race for city commissioner and having 500 more votes than four white candidates trailing behind him.

MAY 2 1943

Solomon, editor of the Miami Whip, who entered the race about three weeks ago after a brief conference with Negro leaders, waged a battle for election which was unique in principle and won the admiration of thousands of Miami's white and Negro citizens. As soon as the word was announced that Solomon had filed, Negro citizens of all classes threw nickels, dimes, quarters and larger donations into the fund for his campaign expenses.

While no active effort was made to solicit funds from white people, several, knowing conditions as they existed in the Negro sections, voluntarily made contributions.

With a shocking degree of indifference, Negroes eligible to register failed to take advantage of the opportunity.

MAY 1 2 1943

Of Miami's Negro Population of 45,000 abot 2,000 are registered. Solomon lost the chance to go into the final election by 1,104 votes which might have been saved had more Negroes qualified.

MAY 2 1943

Dr. Henderson On National Physical Fitness Council

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept 28 —Federal Security Administrator Paul V. McNutt this week announced the appointment of Dr Edwin B. Henderson as a member of the National Council on Physical Fitness. Daily World

Dr. Henderson, department head, Health and Physical Education, Division 10-13 of the public schools of Washington, D. C., will work under direction of Col. Service and still sponsored by the Theodore P. Bank, Chief, Athletic and Recreation Branch, Special Service Division of the War Department. Atlanta, Georgia

A native of the District of Columbia, Dr. Henderson has a noted record record as an athlete, football official and teacher of physical fitness. He was a member of the basketball team which won the Y.M.C.A. national championship in 1910-12. He has also served as president of the Affiliated Board of Football Officials, and is the author of a book, "The Negro in Sports."

Recently the Committee recommended that colleges, high schools and all other athletic organizations continue their sports program as a mark of patriotism despite shortage of personnel and facilities. It is also suggested that those schools which has abandoned athletic activities because of monetary complications resume their program at the earliest possible date.

Upon his appointment, Dr. Henderson declared that an effort should be made to have more boys and girls of high school and college age participate in sport. This can be done, he said, by having inter-mural and inter-class competitions as well as varsity teams.

Dr. Henderson resides in Falls Church, Va.

Negroes in Congress

Dear Editor: PM

I must challenge a statement by Gordon H. Cole in his article of Oct. 30, which says: 'Oscar DePriest, first Negro ever elected to Congress. New York, N. Y.

Of course, Mr. DePriest was not the first Negro ever elected to Congress. I submit the complete list of Negro Congressmen from the first one down to Mr. DePriest's advent.

Cleveland THOMAS W. ANDERSON

Anderson's list shows that John W. Menard was the first Negro elected to Congress—1867-1869.—ED.

52c-1943

About Taxes

WE SHARE HEAVY TAX BURDEN AND SHOULD BE GIVEN REPRESENTATION IN THE GOVERNMENT

BY JOSEPH D. BIBB

JAN 23 1943

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ONE hundred and nine billion dollars! This astronomical sum is the amount that the President requires for the national budget for this fiscal year. The average person can no more conceive of this staggering sum of money than can he accurately contemplate the infinitudes of space. In contemplating this stupendous figure, he might as well also consider prancing on the outer skirts of gravitation or dreaming of dancing on the Milky Way. Colored Americans, who heretofore have thought in terms of nickels and dimes, are confounded by such figures. But, just the same, this time they will pay their share, and they feel the crushing impost of taxes as never before. They will pay as never before and in paying it strikes us that they should be given representation in the affairs of the Government somewhat in congruity and consonance with the amount that they are taxed.



Mr. Bibb

GOVERNMENT CHARITY

During the good old halcyon days of yesterday, it has been said, the colored people, being in the low income brackets, were among the chief beneficiaries of the Nation's taxes. In all fairness it must be conceded that during the sordid days of relief and Government subsidy, that the colored people because of their wretched poverty were underwritten and supported by the taxes paid by other people. Through the good graces of "Federal and State Charity" they were housed, clothed and fed in a fashion.

JAN 23 1943

THIS we are not called upon to deny, but in the same breath we take notice of the historical fact that for more than two hundred and fifty years of slavery and "unrequited toil' the colored American labored and enriched the coffers of the Nation's landed gentry. In the light of all of the overflowing bounty that we have been the begrudged recipients of, we must conclude that we have earned and deserved every red penny that has been bestowed upon us. Now we are called upon to pay approximately one-fourth of what we have earned during the last year and to set aside at least one-third of our measly earnings for the coming fiscal term.

NEGROES WILL DO THEIR PART

We have heard a few grumbles emanating from the constitutionally disgruntled, but all in all the colored people are receiving the new impost of taxes with the same philosophical optimism that has characterized their thinking on all of the privations induced by the War. Almost to the last man they declare that they will cheerfully do their bit to protect this country from the terrible threat of Axis domination. There is no hesitation in their attitude.

THE expressed attitude toward being shackled and shouldered down by the new weight of taxes is the same as has been expressed toward the conscription of the cream of the race into the quotarized and jim crow units of the various branches of the armed services. They say, "It is too bad that they don't accord us the same treatment that they do everybody else." In considering the issue of the new taxes, where colored people, who have never paid before must dig down, a new situation presents itself. The issue is new to the times but it is the same old theme that aroused Patrick Henry to ejalculate, "Taxation without representation is tyranny."

ENTITLED BY TAXES TO REPRESENTATION

The colored Americans have little or no voice in directing the affairs of this nation. If they are not given more voluble expression during the era of these new found taxes, then their condition borders on the lamentable status that the eloquent Virginian railed about. While it is true that the administration has appointed a few "trouble shooters" on issues of race relations, and while there are a few heads of "complaint bureaus" and other "aides" in the so-called "black cabinet," nevertheless and despite that, we will be bowed down by the weights of taxes, if we are not accorded the right and privilege to function with policy-making bodies and to hold representative positions in the affairs of the Nation.

THERE are innumerable members of our race who could do a better job as Ambassador to Australia than "Paving Blocks" Flynn. There are thousands of positions within the gift of the Administration's powers that we are entitled to by virtue of the taxes that we are now paying and by virtue of those that we are called on to pay. If we are taxed without adequate representation in this proposed "Century of the Common Man" then we are tyrannized just as the founders of this Nation were during the days of the Boston Tea Party.

JAN 23 1943

WE ARE CREDITORS OF THE NATION

The National debt that now looms up before us in monstrous proportions must be paid or we will be "on the road to bankruptcy." It will be paid by the taxes imposed on all the people, including us. There will be little respite for the next twenty years. As the Nation balances its books, it strikes us that it would be a noble thing to square its account with us. As things stand now we are the creditors of the American Nation and have been since the first boat of slaves landed on these Columbian Shores.

JAN 23 1943

WE, A large segment of the American people, who are doing our bit to win the war, are still contending for Democracy at home, a square deal from our brothers in the War and a fair representation in the councils of the land we live in. Taxation is a powerful instrument. Mr. Justice Marshall declared, "The Power To Tax Is The Power To Destroy."

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

THE WRONG DIRECTION

MAR 25 1943

For many years, it has been the policy of administrations in Washington to give a few important jobs to Negroes in different departments. More recently some have been designated "adviser on Negro affairs." In the early part of the Roosevelt administration this latter group was especially influential.

These Negro employees have been designated the "Black Cabinet" for they discussed among themselves the problems of special interest to their group and thus became pretty well agreed on just what program to follow.

In recent months, the so-called "Black Cabinet" has been ignored to a great extent, because white people known to be friendly in the past have been brought in as advisers on Negro affairs, and to them rather than the Negro leaders has the administration looked for guidance on Negro questions.

Laying aside the questions of jobs which manifestly should go to Negroes, it is quite obvious that the Negro is in a better position to speak for himself than anyone else. Nobody has had to face the difficulties he encounters at every turn of the road, and therefore nobody can appreciate his feeling or his temper.

Undoubtedly, this trend has had much to do with the many unfavorable decisions that have been and are being made in the effort of the administration to enlarge the field of activity for the Negro.

MAR 25 1943

The Bystander believes that Negroes should be well represented in every department of the govrnment and that they should be consulted on matters of policy in dealing with what each department handles. Should this be done, it could be ascertained at the beginning whether objectionable features are inherent in the program and the evil eradicated before they go too far. We are sure that many abuses arise not only because we are not wanted, but also because we are forgotten in the formation of plans.

Sumter, S. C. Daily Item
October 14, 1943

Twenty-four negroes have served in Congress in the history of the U. S. A.: two senators and 22 representatives.

MAR 25 1943

If all the heat is dished out now, what will the weather man have in August and September when we make hay?

Some time ago I referred to the publication of the Office of War Information on The Negro and his contribution to the War, etc. I admitted that such a publication by the Colored people themselves would be proper as an expression of their pride of achievement. No one wishes to deny that. I had no intention to criticize anything but the obvious political slant of the last control: his brakes won't work or something. Some folk think Gavernment's booklet and the mispicion that the weatherman has at the weatherman got off to a late and slow start that he trying to make up for lost time, ill, he needn't try to make the hole cotton crop in one month! so with some embarrassment for

COMMENTS ON MEN AND THINGS

Darlington, S. C., News & Press
July 1, 1943

Is South Carolina a New Deal State? Is this State an enthusiastic supporter of President Roosevelt? Many politicians speak often of Mr. Roosevelt, but I met a citizen recently who said this to me: "You are a Baptist. Your church believes certain things. Well if your church were to fall into the hands of a controlling group, calling itself Baptist disbelieving in Baptism and the New Testament, and having an out-door barbecue once-a-month instead of the Lord's Supper, would you think they were Baptists? Or, if they are real Baptists, what are you? "Something like that happened to our Democratic Party."

Well, really-isn't the weather too hot to unravel that? Bishop Smoak of Colleton, a high priest among our Methodist brethren, might throw some light on that. And there is that finest of gentlemen, and a stern warrior of the Cross, Brother Rice of Union. What sort of Baptist Church would that be?

I hesitate to embroil "Deacon" Brunson of the Greenville News, though I suspect him of being a brother Baptist. I can't submit to Doctor Ball because he, like President Roosevelt, is an Episcopalian, and perhaps they sit in the same pew in ecclesiastical conferences. Such consideration might embarrass the good Doctor- though I have my doubts that any consideration would stop the even and steady flow of his opinions.

Don't fool yourselves about the attitude of the man back home; whenever he hears the truth stated fully and clearly he will astonish some of the politicians. But by that time the politicians will be trying to convince us that they not only had smelled a rat for some time but that they had actually located the rat.

Oh, for a man, just a man, but a real man! Have we a real man, or must we send for Diogenes?

* * *

Rains have been so spotty, even in the same community, that one is tempted to ask whether the farmers whose corn has been refreshed and revived had more rationing points than the unfavored farmers. While nothing has been said about rationing rainfall or morning dew, you never can tell what a bunch of bureaucrats may do.

* * *

South Carolina owes much to some of our editors and to our radio stations for courage and a true sense of public service. There are no venal men in our press; the papers are serving the public with different degrees of fighting spirit but under enormous difficulties - and without much of the golden stream which the statisticians tell is flowing to every men, woman and child.

We have no finer public servants than those who give us the news both through the papers and over the radio. It is becoming increasingly difficult to get out a paper - to do anything else, as we know so well on the farm. This State may some day have to make some choices that will be like gall and wormwood. At least we can depend on our informational sources to give us the truth.

* * *

Quite a bit has been said about that the heat - which is usually a common topic of conversation about this time of year; but there is a mon topic of conversation about is trying to make up for lost time. Still, h whole cotton crop in one month! so with some embarrassment for

the Colored people of South Carolina and Organized Labor, as we have it here, are quite different from the politicalized Unionists and negroes who play politics in Washington.

I've said that while heavy and learned preachments have been delivered urging us to forget politics and to concentrate on the war, the war itself is being used to build the political fences of the New Deal. In a negro paper I find a picture of three negro lawyers in the Department of Justice, Washington, two of them members of the Attorney General's Staff and the third being sworn in as a trial lawyer of the Staff. So far as the picture in the Negro paper is concerned, surely no white man will object to that. But why should the Office of War Information take and circulate that picture? Yes, let's repeat the question, WHY does the United States Government take that picture? And why does the United States Government circulate it? Well, let's not be innocent; the reason is plain somebody is "playing up" to the Colored people. Who is it?

It may be unpleasant to contemplate the outcome of this, but our politicians and our people are growing farther apart. This very issue is likely to ditch somebody's apple cart.

The papers tell us that a lawyer from New York, addressing the Congregation of Bethel A .M .E. Church, Columbia, shouted "I could n't stand before a South Carolina audience and not request that 'Cotton ED" Smith be taken out of the Senate of the United States". Well, that may be his idea of a modest request. How little this man knows about South Carolina! There in the heat of Washington sits "Cotton Ed", praying that more lawyers for the Colored people will call for his defeat. No stronger appeal for "Cotton Ed's" re-election will be needed.

What a lucky man "Cotton Ed" is! Just when his defeat seems certain something or somebody turns up to turn the tide to him. As John Aull used to say, "Smith can't be beaten; if necessary an earthquake, a depression, a world war, or some other calamity or convulsion of nature, will count in Smith's favor! And now comes this lawyer for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people and makes a speech that is worth thousands of dollars to "Cotton Ed".

The purpose of lawyer Marshall's visit to South Carolina is to arrange for a suit in the Federal Court to compel the State of South Carolina to pay Colored teachers the same salaries now paid to White Teachers.

As Spectator has pointed out, the State does not operate the public schools; the schools are controlled by the Counties or school districts; the State makes grants to help them. The State may make grants at its pleasure, just as the Federal Government does. The Federal Government, in spending public money, has paid - and is paying - unequal sums of money; and during the palmy days of the W. P. A. the Federal Govenrment paid higher wages to Italians in New York than to citizens of South Carolina.

But let's not submit meekly to any of this. This may be the political straw that will break the camel's back.

Northern Negro politicans are becoming more aggressive and assertive every day. I would prefer not to discuss the Colored people because I do not wish to fan the flames of racial animosities. Our Colored people will have to suffer the consequences of the campaign of the Northern Negroes who are inside the political ring and calling for favors. But White people need not think the Northern Negroes are content to stir up trouble up North; they are sending hundreds of thousands of leaflets, booklets, newspapers, etc. to every corner of the South in the effort to arouse our Southern Colored people. It is no new thing; it has been going on for some time.

Recently one Colored paper advocated sending Colored troops to the South so that the Negroes might vote. I have before me a Colored paper which asks: "What can be done at this late day?". And then suggests many courses of action..

Here are some:

1. The churches can lower their color bar . . . .

2. The Supreme Court, now supposedly liberal, can declare all State racial segregation laws unconstitutional, thus null and void.

3. The Government has ample power to enforce these reforms as war measurers.

4. Property owners' convenants can be declared illegal, and a heavy blow struck at the black ghettoes (Colored sections in cities) which are ever expanding."

Most of us deplore all this, but we might as well know what is going on.

A Southerner President

A southerner for president is among the possbilities in the next election. Franklin D. Roosevelt will be returned for a fourth term if the war is in such shape that the people fear to swap horses while crossing a stream. But with victory in sight or serious defeats suffered, he will not succeed himself, in which case present indications are that the Democrats will nominate someone like Byrnes of South Carolina or Rayburn of Texas.

To those more given to hysteria than logic, the election of Cleveland in 1884, was turning the country over to the enemy. That will be said in the campaign if Byrnes, for instance, is nominated by the Democratic party. To whatever degree that opinion prevails, it promotes FDR's fourth term because his election will be a way of escape from a southerner

But this country cannot go through this war and arrive at a lasting peace on any such negative terms. This is the time of all times when we must have strong positive constructive leadership. Party names we cannot avoid, but a party man chosen for president will be a calamity that will make our dead have died in vain, and set back civilization the world over.

Makng choice of the greater good and the lesser evil produces statesmen. The Lincoln who wanted to bind up the nation's wounds in his second administration, had his feet planted on the experience of daring to be right rather than victorious. His training the southerners of this era lack. The best and worst of them, hold office under a system that makes a mockery of the principles professed. They justify their practices on the ground that the majority want it that way. They are not striving to do right and admit it, because when a measure comes up that the majority wants—the anti-poll tax bill for instance—they resort to filibuster and thwart majority rule.

It will be difficult for a southerner of the type that would be considered for the presidential nomination to frame peace for the world in which billions of people of color live. He does not operate his city, county and state in the spirit of the bill of rights of the Constitution. He does not give his colored neighbors equality before the law. He cannot be thoughtful of those colored peoples whom he has not seen, not having treated fairly the colored people he knows.

We have reason to expect tomorrow to be like today. That is both logical and the habit. However, once it was not that way. We opposed the elevation of Hugo Black of Alabama to the supreme court bench, basing our opinion of him on what he had to do to be elected senator in Alabama. When President Roosevelt named him anyway, we expressed the hope that he like Paul would put aside his past and face the high calling of the future. Justice Black has done exactly that.

If Byrnes of South Carolina or Rayburn of Texas is good enough American to be mindful of the fact that the president has a duty to all of the people, Negroes included, his election might make the South at long last drop its sectional goals and take on the high resolve to follow the Constitution and Christian principles as its way of life.

576-1943

To New Post In Hawaii

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia



S. B. Danley, who will lead the U. S. Employment Office somewhere in the Hawaiin Island left from an unannounced port on the West Coast this week to take up his duties. Mr. Danley and family were honored last week [illegible]icago at the Alpha House where U. S Treasurer r[illegible]ntative, William Pickens directed the farewell ceremony. Pictured aboove are Mr. Danley and family, Margaret 16, left Mrs. Danley, Theresa, and Mr Danley seated. The family will leave for Hawaii as soon as the government can arrange transportation, which it is said will be within a few weeks. Acting as special representative for U. S. Government Empjoyees Service in Washington for the past six months, Mr. Danley is well prepared for his position. He is a graduate of the University of Southern California and has done graduate work at the University [illegible]cago, Fisk and N[illegible]Western. His family resides at 6154 Evans Avenue at Chicago.

Dawson Sees New Deal Victory Again In 1944

OCT 9- 1943

CONDEMNS LACK OF UNITY

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By ALFRED E. SMITH
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Victory for the New Deal at the polls in 1944 was predicted here this week by outspoken, hard-hitting Rep. William L. Dawson, lone Negro congressman in the nation.

In an exclusive interview with the Defender, the Georgia-born solon from Chicago belittled repeated claims that the Negro vote is swinging to the Republicans. He gave an indirect answer to Ex-Rep. Arthur W. Mitchell, who recently told the Defender that the GOP would get the Negro vote in '44 unless the Democrats changed their policies.

"The Democrats will win next year," declared Dawson. "As far as Negroes are concerned they must win."

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Acknowledging the pro-Willkie sentiment among Negroes, Dawson countered in stating: "Liberalism such as that of Wendell L. Willkie means nothing as long as Republican congressmen from 'liberal' states continue to ally themselves with southern Democrats who work to hurt the Negro.

Lauds New Deal Benefits

"It appears that the only real friend of the Negro is the northern Democrat. The way of the Negro voter is clear—he can't make and destroy friends at the same time.

"Negro voters are smart enough to know the benefits they enjoy now—benefits initiated under the New Deal," the congressman continued.

"They also understand the forces at work in Washington against the liberal tendencies of the President."

Then Dawson jibed: "Even if they didn't want to vote for the President, they would have to vote for him anyway, just to keep Mrs. Roosevelt in the White House."

OCT 9- 1943

The frank congressman took occasion to note the seemingly growing disunity among Negroes. "Disunity between Negro leaders and masses is losing us many priceless opportunities," said the congressman.

"Negro leaders command but little respect from whites because apparently they command but little respect from the Negro masses. Alternate apathy and fits of bitter unweighed criticism directed at their leaders by average Negroes, are regarded by whites as evidence that Negro leaders command no following and hence wield no power. The Negro must learn to respect his leaders, to trust them behind closed doors, to hear them before indulging in wholesale condemnations."

"On the other hand," he added, "Negro leaders must merit respect by subordinating personal ambitions to the welfare of the race."

Most leadership faults, he believes, are "sins of omission." For example, nearly every Negro leader is now engaged in urging Negroes to greater militancy, to protest and fight for their rights. This is fine, Dawson said. But hardly one leader in ten is willing to tackle the harder, thankless job of "educating" the Negro masses, teaching them that they can't expect to be treated as decent citizens unless they act like decent citizens on the job, the streets, and at home. "We have to measure up," he said, "or we stand to lose everything we've gained."

Speaks From Experience

The congressman is not pessimistic over possibilities. He cites his experiences in World War I during which he and fellow colored officers, newly commissioned from Jim Crow Des Moines army training center, were stationed for a time at Camp Grant. They were put in command of Negro troops, newly drafted from southern cotton fields. In the words of the congressman, "they had no respect for themselves, and less for any Negro authority. They were used to the white man as a leader, and frankly did not want Negro officers."

OCT 9- 1943

Ultimate transformation of these mutually suspicious Negro officers and men into a compact high morale unit—the 365th Infantry—and willing acceptance by the men of suicidal assignments in France "just to show disparaging whites that Negro men could and would serve under Negro officers and go through hell with and for them" was a revelation.

"There is no more loyal person in the world than the Negro," said the congressman.

He added that right now too many young Negroes are loyal to nothing but hatred. "They have a switchblade in their pocket, hatred in their heart, and a chip on their shoulder."



REP. WILLIAM L. DAWSON

Need of Education

Negro leaders have the responsibilty of showing Negroes the advantage of being loyal to each other and leadership. Negro leaders cannot just ignore those things which do not affect them personally. They can't run away from Negro rowdies, so they may as well "fight and "educate" them.

OCT 9- 1943

"Men differ. They are products of their own individual experiences. But no matter what the motivation —religion, fear, hatred—they can be moulded into a loyal cooperating whole."

Then, he pointed out, "we can adopt the strategy of the Jewish people. If a hotel refuses a Negro guest, we can buy the hotel, instead of our leaders protesting futilely and our masses saying: 'Serves him right, he should have known better than go in where he ain't wanted'."

Congressman Dawson is proud of being a politician, and regards this field as one where solidarity plus intelligent use of the ballot in "minority group politics," will best guarantee the Negro those rights to which he is entitled. But here again he indicated the necessity for cohesion between Negro political leaders and voters.

White political powers who control the inner councils of municipal, district and state politics, are not ruled by sentiment and tradition. Respect is accorded Negro political leaders directly in proportion to the size and loyalty of the Negro votes they control. When this loyalty behind a Negro alderman committeeman, state legislator, or U. S. congressman wavers, he is "thrown to the wolves."

"In politics," said the congressman, "the Negro must also forget a lot of sentiment and tradition. He must be free in his political mind to vote for those persons and issues promising the best for him. But above this, he must not forget that as a minority group, his vote is unfelt and unnoticed unless he follows his political leaders and votes as a group either as a balance of power or to emphasize a majority."

White political powers do not make Negro political leaders, but merely recognize them and give them an "OK" after the Negro voting mass has made them. These Negro political leaders are respected because their control of loyal Negro votes gives them the power to punish white politicians who would discriminate against Negroes.

Just about the time a Negro rises to such political eminence that he has a "foot in the door" of the inner sanctum where political policy is made, his Negro vote following deserts him for some unjustified reason, and the whole race suffers by his fall. "Nowhere," said Dawson, "is it so necessary for Negroes to respect their leadership as in politics. For whatever we get out of politics, we have to pay a price in votes and loyalty."

Dawson the Man

Folksy William Levi Dawson, born in Albany, Ga., in 1886, is a "peoples Congressman," interested in everything benefitting the little man.

A family man, he is proud of his daughter entering Fiske U., his alma mater, and proud of his prowess as a victory gardener. His talk is easy and studded with lusty phrases picked up when he worked at everything from a laborer to a lawyer, and got a real education in the "university of hard knocks."

He enjoys a laugh as when he recalls that while white Congressmen inspire respect and awe at home, some elements of his own people, when admonished to "quiet down fellows, here comes the Congressman," are wont to reply in pool-room parlance: " —— the Congressman!"

OCT 9- 1943

His greatest fear is that Negroes may mistake license for liberty, but he is a fighter.

Once in Georgia, one of the white gressman, and fortunately he boy about, it kids who grew up with him said: lieves in "humanity, America, and "I'm grown now, Willie, you start the Negro." calling me Mr. Bennie."

"All right, Bennie," said Dawson, "everytime you call me Mr. Willie, I'll call you Mr. Bennie." He hasn't changed.

Until Negro voters do something

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 8/1

52c-1943
Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

COLORED WOMAN BAILIFF IS FIRST IN CHICAGO COURT

JAN 24 1943

Sees Less Vice, Liquor in Delinquencies.

Helen Gertrude Russell, Chicago's first colored woman bailiff of the Municipal court, meets all races, creeds, and colors in her new post at the Women's court, 1121 South State street. So far as she can determine, she is the country's only woman bailiff of her race. She was deputized late last year.

Miss Russell daily accompanies the women and girls in her charge from the 13th floor down to the 9th floor in the court building elevator. On this short ride she tries to get them to tell their stories. From this she finds there is less vice and drinking than the records of a year ago indicate. However, more cases now involve delinquent girls who are "uniform crazy."

No Excuse for Inaction.

"If there ever was an excuse for inactivity before, it has disappeared today," Miss Russell said in recounting her 17 years as a social worker on the south side. "Girls who are not yet working should spend their free hours away from school or home as volunteer workers in the U. S. O., Y. M. C. A., Women's Defense Corps of America, or American Women's Voluntary service.

JAN 24 1943

"War workers include both volunteers in organized service groups as well as those at work in war industry," Miss Russell pointed out. "Most of the volunteer work is fun, rather than monotonous. It gives girls a feeling they are contributing to their country at war."

Prior to being deputized by Chief Bailiff Albert Horan, Miss Russell was employed by the board of health, where she was chief clerk of Chicago baby records. For seven years she was president of a children's welfare club in the 5th ward, as well as a Girl Scout troop committee member.

JAN 24 1943

Attended Radcliffe College.

A graduate of the English High school at Cambridge, Mass., she attended Radcliffe college for two years, majoring in social services.

Miss Russell is devoting her own time to the Robert S. Abbott chapter of the Women's Defense Corps of America, of which she is adjutant. The chapter is aiding a company of soldiers at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin.

She lives with a sister at 6131 Michigan avenue.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

G.O.P. CHANCES BRIGHTEN IN HOT 2D WARD RACE

MAR 28 1943

Believe Atkins Gets Aid of Dickerson Group.

BY HAROLD SMITH.

Republicans and Democrats in the 2d ward on the near south side, made up mainly of Negros, are in an old-fashioned slug fest for the council seat from which Ald. Earl B. Dickerson, Democrat was eliminated in the Feb. 23 election. In the runoff April 6 either Mack Atkins, Republican, or William H. Harvey, the Kelly-Nash candidate, who nudged Ald. Dickerson out of the money, will be picked as his successor.

Republican hopes are at the highest point in years. All the important party leaders have declared that Atkins is about to return the 2d ward to the Republican column from which it had never departed before Dickerson unseated William L. Dawson four years ago. Theoretically the aldermanic elections are nonpartisan, but more often than not they are clear tests of party strength.

The Dickerson-Dawson feud, which appears to grow more bitter with the years, kept the present 2d ward alderman out of the Democratic camp last week, and there were reports that the Dickerson precinct workers had begun lining up behind Atkins after the word went out that they were free to make their own choice in the matter.

Dawson Here to Aid Harvey.

How seriously the Democrats regard the G. O. P. threat this year was seen from the fact that Congressman Dawson [he became an acknowledged city hall Democrat more than three years ago], the Kelly-Nash ward committeeman, stayed away from his Washington duties to direct his forces in behalf of Harvey and Mayor Kelly.

MAR 28 1943

Dawson's influence was seen in the wave of dictatorial orders that has just swept thru the ward. Democratic leaders were reported to be warning Negro voters that unless the ward return a big margin for Mayor Kelly, they face loss of relief, old age pensions, and even defense jobs they obtained thru the aid of machine Democrats.

To the Atkins side are going many former Democrat voters who resented Dawson's selection of Harvey, an obscure politician Dawson helped land a city fireman's job, instead of a better known person, to run for Dickerson's council seat. They hold that Harvey's election will give control of the council seat to Dawson, which would be too great a concentration of power in one individual, inasmuch as the congressman as ward committeeman has things pretty much his own way.

MAR 28 1943

A large proportion of the ward's Democrats have made it known they believe the aldermanic nomination should have gone to Richard A. Harewood, an assistant corporation counsel who had long been prominently mentioned for the post.

Atkins Widely Known.

Atkins, who is new to the political picture altho he is widely known on the south side both as a successful undertaker and a church and civic leader, is acceptable to the better element that has been trying to break up the policy wheel and other rackets that flourish unchecked in the ward.

He has promised to help stamp out these evil influences, and to work in the council for much needed street improvements, more adequate street lighting, added police protection, and the establishment of full day public schools in place of the half day shift system which now holds in 12 public schools that serve the Negro population.

MAR 28 1943

Atkins was indorsed last week by the Citizens' Association of Chicago, successor to the Municipal Voters' league. In its report on the aldermanic candidates the association says of Atkins: "His experience as a business man and personal qualities of leadership indicate he would make an independent and able representative of the ward."

Withhold Indorsement in 3d.

The association made no indorsement for the 3d ward, where Ald. Benjamin A. Grant, Democrat, again is opposed by former Congressman Oscar DePriest.

In the 5th ward the recommendation was given Bertram B. Moss, an attorney who successfully resisted a Kelly-Nash purge in the Feb. 23 election, landing in the runoff with former County Treasurer Horace G. Lindheimer, who got the city hall indorsement after it was snatched from Moss without apparent reason. The association report says Moss "gives promise of good performance as a member of the council." Of Lindheimer it says, "His record as [ward] committeeman and his indifference to the public interest viewpoint raise serious questions as to his qualifications for aldermanic office."

Preference between the 7th ward candidates was expressed for Nicholas J. Bohling Jr., young attorney who has been active in community and civilian defense work. About Bohling the report says, "good native ability combined with extensive experience in community activity, plus his forthright attitude, give promise of a career of constructive effort and independent action."

Of Bohling's opponent, Mathew J. [Bud] Ryan, the report says, "his Democratic organization [his brother is Kelly-Nash ward committeeman] raises a question as to his capacity for independence."

In 2d Ward Race



William Harvey.



Mark Atkins.

[Harrison Photos.]

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

IT GENERALLY BOUNCES BACK

APR 15 1943

Generally speaking, it is not good to do evil. But there is no harm in casting out devils. It is done in politics quite often and has a wholesome influence.

APR 15 1943

In the recent Chicago election, Mayor Edward J. Kelly, Democratic incumbent, defeated George M. McKibbin, Republican, following a bitter campaign in which every trick of the game was used by both sides to gain votes.

APR 15 1943

For several years, Negroes in Chicago have been moving further south in order to accommodate the large growth in population. Mr. McKibbin lived in a section which decided that Negroes should not be allowed to move in and he along with several of his neighbors entered into an agreement—a restricted covenant—in which they agreed not to sell any property to Negroes. Kelley did not sign the covenant. The Kelly group dug the covenant up and through newspapers and on the platform blasted McKibbin.

To show how effectively the issue worked, in the third ward former Congressman Oscar De Priest, Republican, defeated his Democratic opponent by approximately four hundred votes while the Mayor Kelly defeated McKibbin by twenty five hundred votes.

APR 15 1943

Undoubtedly, the Republicans would have done much better had they nominated a candidate for mayor whose record was not such that it alienated the Negro vote. And in Chicago, Negroes do not mind voting for a good Democrat in preference to a bad Republican.

APR 15 1943

And the Bystander believes that this election served as a warning to Republicans in 1944 that they need not feel they can pick "just any candidate" and expect for him to get elected. People just don't operate on that score any more.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Dawson Flays Poll Tax at Senate Session

BALTIMORE BULLETIN

The Senate Judiciary Committee on Wednesday recessed its hearings on constitutionality of the poll tax bill until next Tuesday, with three opponents still to be heard and in position to drag out their testimony to effect a virtual filibuster.

The existence of a republican form of government in the eight Southern States holding payment of poll taxes to be a prerequisite to voting was challenged before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday by Congressman William Dawson of Illinois.

The Illinois Congressman, one of three lawyers arguing the constitutionality of the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill now awaiting Senate action, told the Judiciary Committee in effect that the disfranchisement of millions of citizens through poll tax laws was in itself a violation of the Constitution.

Congressman Dawson also pointed out that existence of the poll tax laws has enabled unscrupulous persons to entrench themselves in office by the purchase of poll tax receipts and manipulation which guarantees every State a small minority only exercises in the union a republican form of government.

He contended that these laws violate the Constitution in that they abridge this right of the Federal Government voiced in Article IV, Section 4 of the Constitution.

"So complete has been the disfranchisement," he said, "that to-day in the eight poll tax States

"So complete has been the disfranchise and control of the government to such an extent that existence of the poll tax laws has enabled unscrupulous persons to entrench themselves in office by the purchase of poll tax receipts and manipulation of votes. This right of the Federal Government voiced in Article IV, Section 4 of the Constitution.

He contended that these laws violate the Constitution in that they abridge this right of the Federal Government voiced in Article IV, Section 4 of the Constitution.

"So complete has been the disfranchisement," he said, "that to-day in the eight poll tax States a small minority only exercises in the union a republican form of government.

FIRST ILLINOIS CONGRESSMAN



OSCAR DEPRIEST

Congress Broke Custom As DePriest Took Oath

This is the 20th of a series of articles on prominent Chicago citizens who have been outstanding in their chosen field.

By DETON J. BROOKS

Tall gaunt Oscar DePriest strode down the aisle to his desk. Every eye was upon him. For he was the first member of his race to be elected to Congress for nearly 30 years.

It was April 15, 1929 and President Hoover had called the new Congress for a special session. The members were to be "sworn in" as the first order of business.

Would DePriest take his oath of office with the rest? That was the question of the moment. The "solid" south had threatened to fight his acceptance. And his enemies at home had given them plenty of ammunition. Only the Saturday before an indictment against him which could not be supported with sufficient facts for even a trial, had been quashed in the Chicago courts.

But southern Negro-hating legislators planned to use this fact as a weapon. They intended to have his credentials referred to a committee and then prolong his acceptance until the term of the Congress expired.

"Frame" His Defeat

They were sure their strategy would work because Alabama's delegation would be sworn in first. And then because they were full-fledged legislators, they would challenge DePriest when he presented his credentials.

They might have succeeded if there hadn't been some real Americans in the right places that day, people who had been brought up in the tradition that every citizen deserved a fair break. The first one that showed her colors was Ruth Hanna McCormick, Congresswoman from Illinois and the daughter of the famous senator, Mark Hanna.

As DePriest cooly took his seat, as if he were merely an observer, instead of one of the main actors, Mrs. McCormick courageously walked over, shook his hand and gave him a pat of encouragement.

About this time the Speaker of the House, Nicholas Longsworth, who was also the husband of Alice Roosevelt, daughter of former President Teddy Roosevelt, pounded his gavel for session to start. And then Speaker Longsworth solemnly announced that every member of the body would be sworn in at the same time.

Instead of Alabama, for instance, coming before Illinois, the delegations were inducted simultaneously. Southern strategy was upset—their representatives flabbergasted, but DePriest took his seat.

Won And Lost

This was only one of many hard political battles in which DePriest has engaged — some he has won; others he has lost, but in all of them he has fought with every ounce of his energy and ability.

Oscar DePriest was born in Florence, Ala., on March 9, 1871. When he was seven years old his parents moved to Salina, Kans., where he attended the public elementary and high schools and then went to the County Normal college. He left Salina when he was 17 coming East to Toledo, Ohio, where he learned the painter's trade.

From Toledo, he moved to Chicago in May, 1889. He's made his home here ever since. When he first came to the "Windy City" he got a job at his trade. In a short time he branched out and set up an independent contracting business.

One evening a friend by the name of Kennedy came by his house and asked him to go to a precinct meeting. He consented. They found themselves to be the only Negroes present.

In those days precinct captains were elected and this was the business of the meeting. Two candidates were running. Kennedy asked, "Oscar, who shall we vote for?" DePriest answered, "Neither of them. there's nothing for us to gain. Let's don't vote." So they didn't.

When the ballots were counted, the candidates were tied with nine votes apiece. DePriest immediately sensed that he and Kennedy held the balance of power. He set out to make a deal.

He approached one of the candidates and said, "I have two votes, if I throw them in your favor you must make me secretary of the organization." The fellow looked at him as if he were crazy, replying, "I can't make a Negro an officer."

Plays Game

DePriest then made the same proposition to the other candidate and he accepted. Paul Zeen was his name. With the two votes Zeen became precinct captain and Oscar DePriest the secretary. This was his start in politics.

He took to the game as a duck to water. By 1904 he had attracted the attention of the Republican bigwigs. Martin B. Madden who was the power in the first precinct sent for him offering him a job. This he refused. Madden then told him, "Oscar, if you throw the support of the twelve colored precincts in my favor for Congress, I'll make you a county commissioner." DePriest accepted his proposition. But his friends told him that Madden could not be trusted. Oscar didn't take any chances.

The Congressional convention was scheduled for two weeks before the County convention. At that time party candidates were nominated by conventions instead of by direct election. So DePriest maneuvered to have the Congressional convention postponed until Madden placed him on the County ticket. In this way he was sure he wouldn't be tricked.

Elected To Office

He was elected to the County board and served two terms. After this fling in public office, he entered the real estate business, not running again until 1915 when he was elected alderman of the second ward.

DePriest collaborated with Mayor William Hale Thompson in putting so many Negroes in the City Hall as workers during this period that certain newspapers called it "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

He served only one term as alderman, being succeeded by his friend, Louis B. Anderson. He kept active in politics, although he didn't run for office until he was elected to Congress in 1928.

The strenuous primary of 1928 was just over. Madden had been renominated as the Republican candidate for congress, largely through the assistance of DePriest who had acted as his campaign manager.

"Oscar" and Louis B. Anderson had just arrived at West Baden for a rest after the campaign when word came by telephone that Madden had died in Washington and that Mayor Thompson would support DePriest for Congress.

Returns To Chicago

He returned to Chicago and immediately began fighting and campaigning for the right to this coveted position. And the fight wasn't over until Nicholas Longsworth sounded his gavel breaking the traditional "swearing in" custom in order to help him be seated.

If there is one quality which stands out in the long years of Oscar DePriest's political career, it is his utter fearlessness when the rights of Negroes are involved. His remark to the superintendent of the United States Military academy when that individual suggested that he send a white candidate to represent the first district after a Negro had failed to remain, is indicative of this attitude.

Pounding his fist angrily on the army officer's desk he said, "No, sir! I'll not send a white boy until a Negro is graduated. If need be, I'll send them bigger and blacker each time, until you military people finally make up your minds to let one of my race graduate." The officer's face got red, but Lt. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., one of his candidates finally got through.

His strategy seemed to work.

Predicts Mixed Combat Units

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia



—Whether or not that Negro ...icemen would be taken from ser...ice Battalions and given a chance to fight the Nazis and "Japs," Congressman William L. Dawson, this week told representatives of this newspaper that they would. He said that with the Casualties list mounting with such rapidity he believed that mixed combat units would soon take place on the fight fronts. He said that a lot of people will soon change their minds about what to do with Negro troops. Shown with the Congressman is diminutive 28 years old Frankie Dee, a fra...ty brother of the Congress...n who helped in the Dawson Campaign for Congress. Both the Congressman and Dee are in Chicago for a few weeks. (Press Photo Service).

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

KELLY FILLS ONE LIBRARY AND 2 SCHOOL POSTS

DEC 30 1943

Two Negro attorneys and a leader in Swedish affairs were named yesterday by Mayor Edward J. Kelly to fill two board of education vacancies and one seat on the library board. The city council deferred action until its next meeting.

Irvin C. Mollison, now a member of the library board, was named to the school board post formerly held by James B. Cashin, who resigned a few months ago to became a member of the city civil service commission. Both are Negroes. Joseph D. Bibb, Negro, was chosen for Mollison's place on the library board.

Erik Thulin, for 24 years grand secretary of a Swedish fraternal insurance organization, was named to take the school board post of the late Nels H. Olson.

On School Board



Irvin C. Mollison and Erik Thulin.

DEC 30 1943

Both Are Short Terms.

Mollison's school board term will continue until next April 30. Thulin's term will run to April 30, 1947. Regular board terms are five years.

Mollison, a graduate of the University of Chicago law school, was named to the library board by Mayor Kelly on Oct. 11, 1938. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, honorary scholastic organization; a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Col... People; the Chicago Urban League, and secretary of the ...rd of trustees of Provident hospital.

DEC 6 1943

Mollison is 45 years old and lives at 417 East 60th street. He has no children. Asked whether he would work for relief of allegedly crowded schools on the south side, he reserved comment until he could study conditions. "This inherently is a rather difficult budgetary and administrative matter," he said.

First Office for Thulin.

Thulin said he was surprised that he was appointed. He said he will press for full development of a physical education program. He is a native of Sweden and 61 years old. He came to the United States and Chicago in 1911. He said he has held no other political positions. He lives at 818 East 80th street. A...son, Gunnar, is a clerk for the board of education.

DEC 30 1943

Bibb attended Yale and Harvard law schools. He formerly was editor of the Chicago Whip, defunct newspaper, and served on the library board under a former Republican. He is a member of the Provident hospital board. His home is at 612 East 51st street.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Corrects Story On First Chaplain

JUL 31 1943

In reading your issue of July 17, I notice the following story: "Bishop Walls Prays In Illinois Senate." And the story goes on to say that "previously chaplains in the Senate were white ministers, Jews, Catholics and Protestants."

May I call your attention to the fact that either in 1926 or 1927, I was chaplain to the Illinois State Senate, and served that body for one week. I was chaplain during the time of Gov. Len Small, with Lieut. Governor Fred E. Sterling of Rockford serving in that office. Adelbert H. Roberts was then a member of the Senate.

I was appointed by Lieut. Governor Sterling, and was re-appointed for another year, but declined the offer because of duties conflicting with the schedule. I think the Crisis carried a story, and my picture, telling of my service as the first Negro to serve as a chaplain in the Illinois State Senate.

During my services as chaplain, the governor entertained the members of the two houses, and I being the chaplain for the week, was invited to the reception. Senator Roberts was my guide. There were several Negro members in the lower house at that time, but Senator Roberts and I were the only Negroes present at the reception.

On my first appearance in the Senate I was presented by Lieut. Governor Sterling, and a further word was spoken by Senator Roberts. The fine and courteous senator introduced me to the members and aided me in many ways during my chaplaincy. I shall always remember the respect and high esteem in which Senator Roberts was held by the Senate, and those employed at the State Capitol Building.

JUL 11 1943

I do not ...ers...and ... Negro ministers have not been appointed chaplains in the State Senate. The way was opened for them to have the honor. It is true, for many years, Negro clergymen have served as chaplains in the lower house, but only two, as far as I know, have prayed in the Senate, Bishop Walls and I.

JUL 1943

I thought you would be interested in this bit of history, and it is well to inform the readers that Negro clergy men have not been excluded because of race. Furthermore, I did not seek the chaplaincy. It was offered me and I shall always remember the conversation the Lieut. Governor had when he appointed me. I had a delightful time during the week I served and the experiences have lived with me over the years. I was a pastor at Rockford, Ill., in 1926.

I am happy that Bishop Walls was honored so recently and I am sure he impressed the members of the Senate. — Irving K. Merchant, Pottsville, Pa.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

THE CALL OF DESTINY

William L. Dawson, the only Negro Congressman, is sitting in the lap of destiny. The opportunity is his to become one of the leading statesmen in the nation's capital. The indications are that Chicago's "Bill" will live up to his historical opportunities.

On the question of subsidies so necessary in the rolling back of prices, Dawson voted correctly. He was against the Smith-Connally Bill, against the poll tax system, for the strengthening of the Fair Employment Practices committee, and for every win-the-war measure.

Dawson has become the dyed-in-the-wool Democrat. He is therefore against the poll tax Democrats who quote Thomas Jefferson but whose economic level of the whole

Politics, real politics, practical politics begins with the organization and activization of millions of the people. Lincoln placed his faith in the people. So too must Dawson. Never in all history has the Negro needed more heroic leadership than now. There was never more room at the top than now. The colored peoples of the world are fighting on the fields of Europe and Asia for democracy's victory. They need legislators who want to speak for these people—the world against fascism. More power to Dawson.

JUL 31 1943

Rep. Greene Battler In Illinois Legislature

By DETON J. BROOKS JR.

When Ernest Greene left the dean's office that grey gloomy day he felt just like the weather. He was blue and sad and dejected.

For two years he had been a dental student at the University of Illinois and now he had to admit failure. He had the dean had just had a conference in which both of them agreed that he wasn't cut out to be a dentist.

He was smart enough, his record in dental theory proved that. But his hands—they weren't long and thin or properly tapered for delicate mechanical work and it was this physical handicap which had defeated him. Two years of hard work and study for naught! The world was pretty dark for Greene that cold November morning of 1925.

Asks Question

As he slowly walked away from the entrance to the school he asked himself, "What will I do now? Can I muster the courage to start all over again in a new field?"

In the 18 years that have passed since then Greene has fully answered his own query. Today he is a fighting, scrapping member of the House of Representatives of the Illinois legislature and one of Chicago's leading lawyers.

After he had left Illinois he decided to try his hand at law.

He entered the University of Chicago law school and managed to stay a year before another tragedy befell him. His father died. And he had to withdraw from the university since he now must support himself. He got a job as a red-cap at the Dearborn street station in the daytime but continued his studies at Kent College of Law at night In 1930 he graduated and after passing the bar examination opened his office for practice the next year.

Almost immediately he entered politics starting out as a precinct captain for the Republican organization of the Second Ward. This was unusual for a lawyer—most of them like to be on the speaker's bureau—but few want to tackle the arduous task of pushing doorbells to get out the vote. By doing this Greene learned politics from the bottom up. He learned what the masses of people were thinking and what they wanted from political leaders.

In 1934 he ran for state central committeeman and was beaten—but no for long. He came right back in 1936 and ran for the state representative of the first district. And this time he won.

In each successive election since then he's been reelected and accomplished one of the most exceptional feats in 1942 by winning without the support of the regular organization. This was possible because of his extreme popularity with the rank and file people of his district. They like him; they think he's honest and sincere.



Defender
Chicago, Ill.

ERNEST A. GREENE

Greene has a knack so necessary in politics—that of winning friends. He's not the hand-shaking, cigar-chewing "hail-fellow-well-met" type. He's a plain sort with none of the flair for theatrics which marks some men in political life.

He's the type that the man-on-the street considers a real fellow like himself. Yet in any gathering there's something about him that makes him stand out as a natural leader. He's solid and firm—he gives you the impression, the first time you meet him, that he's got a backbone.

And his legislative record tends to support this impression. During the last session he introduced bills that had real teeth. They were so forceful that all of them were defeated in the Senate after passing the House. Take his anti-union discrimination bill for instance. This would have provided that any union which discriminated against a person because of race, creed or color would not be recognized for collective bargaining purposes. This was killed by American Federation of Labor influence in the Senate Greene said. Another bill he introduced and which was beaten in the upper house, was his State Fair Employment Practices bill.

Lived in South

Greene explains that one reason he fights so bitterly to see that Negroes get equal rights is because "I come from the South. I know first hand how vicious and evil and hateful southern anti-democratic racial patterns are. And I don't want them to get a strong foothold here."

Greene was born in Rome, Ga., and up until he came to Chicago to attend Illinois university the southland was his home. There he did all of his high school and college work, attending the Ballard Normal school in Macon, Ga., and Talladega college from where he received his A.B. degree. At both schools he was known as a brilliant student.

His law practice plus political work keeps him from indulging in many hobbies. He's an ardent sportsman and when he has time loves a good baseball game. It reminds him of when he used to hold down second base during high school and college days.

But most of his spare time he uses trying to figure out ways to get some of his anti-discriminatory laws passed.

52c-1943

Illinois

CHICAGO'S NEGROES AND THE WAR

Disunity can only serve the enemy. "Too many currents are exhausting the political energies of the Negro people, when, if canalized in the main war stream, they can be a great asset in defeating Hitler and Hitlerism," says William L. Patterson, Negro Communist lecturer and writer.

Forge the patriotic, anti-fascist unity of our nation in support of the win-the-war policies of our Commander-in-Chief!

—Communist May 1 Manifesto

By WILLIAM L. PATTERSON

CHICAGO.

ALREADY it is unmistakably clear that victory in this war makes no more imperative demand than of unity of the forces fighting for democracy. The strengthening of the solidarity of the United Nations and the development of national unity must be supplemented by the unity of all smaller groupings in the country whether political, economic or cultural. Disunity within such smaller groupings will inevitably disturb the trend toward national unity and weaken the struggle for democracy. It must also, therefore, weaken the efforts such groupings are making to obtain for themselves a greater measure of democracy and consequently greater opportunities for participating in the war against fascism. For no group is this more true than it is for Negro America.

In the struggle for the unity of the Negro people, Chicago bears a large measure of responsibility. Chicago occupies a unique position in our political life. No other city sends a Negro representative to Congress. William L. Dawson, representative for the First Congressional District, is the Congressional spokesman for Negro America. He has the largest forum of any Negro political figure in our country. He, therefore, has great responsibilities of a political and organizational character. Chicago has two Negroes in its city council, one a Republican, Oscar De Priest, the other a Democrat, William H. Harvey. Earl B. Dickerson and Milton P. Webster, two Chicago Negroes are members of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, one of the most important of war committees. Robert Taylor, a Negro, is the chairman of the Chicago Housing Authority, and Willard Townsend of Chicago, president of the United Service and Transport Service Workers Union, CIO, is the ranking Negro trade unionist in America, being on the Executive of the CIO. The Illinois Legislature has today more Negro spokesmen than any other legislative body in the country.

The Worker
New York, N. Y
MAY 2 1943
52c



SKILL, SERVED HOT: They've got rhythm, these Negro workers at U.S. Steel's Federal Shipyard at Kearny, N. J. And distinction. They look a bit like a section gang, the muscle-men who drive spikes in railroad ties. But what they do requires skill—served hot. They are furnacemen. Ship plates, white hot, must be "shaped to fit different parts of a hull. They are fastened against wedges by mauling down those gigantic "pins." A powerful shaper bends the steel to the right curve. The crew follows the bend and pins the plate tight. Hot, fast, precise work. They hit where they look while "the iron is hot."

MAY 2 1943

Where the Failings Lie

All of this testifies to the political strength of Negro Chicago and is indicative of the tremendous potentialities this center of the midwest has for giving leadership to the Negro people. It might be well to add that in Ishmael P. Flory, a rising young Negro trade unionist, Chicago has one of the most forthright spokesmen now functioning on the trade union field.

Despite this strength in number and position, Negro Chicago lacks unity. Great individual ability there is among these men but there seems little or no consciousness of their responsibility for forging the unity of their people and less understanding that unity of the Negro people must take the pattern of national unity. There seems to be no appreciation that slavish adherence to partisan politics is out for the duration at least and that the national emergency places victory above all. Partisan politics can now only be destructive of the ends Negro America is seeking to attain—equality of opportunity in the use of this manpower for victory.

The leading Negro political figures of Chicago have not yet learned to elevate the war program to a position of supreme importance and to fit all issues arising out of the political, economic and cultural discrimination against the Negroes within the orbit of the war. This is the road to victory over Hitler and also victory over Hitlerism.

Nowhere was blind adherence to partisan politics so crudely demonstrated than when William L. Dawson made his initial congressional speech. That speech was in defense of the political integrity of William Pickens who had been attacked by Martin Dies as a radical. True, Dies is a Democrat but he is also a tool of American fascists. Yet Dawson to be a "true Democrat" indulged in red baiting in order to curry favor with Martin Dies. For the Texas poll tax Democrat whose career reveals no evidence of sympathy with democracy, this was a victory; but for Negro unity this was a defeat. Dawson did a disservice to the nation.

Disunity Hurts The Negro People

On other occasions Dawson has shown a narrow factional attitude against other Negro leaders. He indulged in a vicious factional campaign within his party against Earl B. Dickerson. This campaign brought about the elimination of Earl B. Dickerson from the Chicago City Council in which he had been one of the most progressive forces. It was a victory for one individual but a defeat for Negro unity.

The history of Mr. Dickerson, one of America's ablest Negro leaders, also reflects a strong tendency toward factionalism within his party. This has weakened his own effectiveness and weakened his value to the Negro people as a whole. It has forced him to seek political alliances—and not all have been with win-the-war forces. It has taken Dickerson out of the camp of Mayor Kelly who is an able supporter of the President's war program. Dickerson has not been able to see that those who today adhere closest to the President's program of victory over fascism are making the greatest contribution in the struggle against Hitlerism here at home. Objectively these people are the friends of Negro America even when not consciously such. Dickerson's campaign against a win-the-war Democrat could only confuse the Negro people of Chicago.

The campaigns of Oscar De Priest for Republican candidate for city council and that of William H. Harvey were also marked by their violent partisan character. De Priest is adhering to the anti-war program of the Gov. Green-Senator Brooks-McCormick bloc, than which there is no more menacing force for the Negro people in America.

Willard Townsend, the ranking Negro CIO leader is rapidly falling under the complete dominance of Trotskyites, social democratic elements and as well is being influenced by certain clerical fascist forces. The recent attacks of this labor leader upon the Communists are reminiscent of those attacks which split the unity of France and brought about its inevitable defeat. Reading Townsend one could only think of Goebbels. This man's attack upon Communism has been equalled in its viciousness nowhere save in the tirades of Martin Dies, the Klan representative.

Mr. Townsend in inconsistently following such a course is not only driving a Hitler-like wedge at the most consistent and persistent friends of the Negroes in American political life, he is also doing grave injury to national unity and to the unity of his own people.

A number of leading Chicago churchmen are also coming forward on the political front. One of the leading ministers working with the National Negro Council headed by the careerist, Edgar G. Brown, has called Senator Langer, Republican of North Dakota, to speak in his church. There has been a complete failure to recognize that Langer, who in words expresses a sympathy for Negro America, is in deeds following the line of the poll tax congressmen and other fascist-minded elements in Congress.

None of these men seem clearly to understand that were they to agree upon a win-the-war program, this would be the greatest contribution that could be made to the fight Negro America is making for equality of opportunity. There is for them a basis

unity around a program that offers each an opportunity for personal prestige and material advantages. It is the program of victory over Hitler.

Changes Needed In Outlooks

These men have, however, adhered to a politics-as-usual program, by remaining representatives of the school of political thought which they insistently miscall "practical politics." This practical politics reflects itself in practice in an "each-for-himself and the devil take the hindmost" attitude. While the making of an advantageous deal behind the scenes may appear as a shorter cut to "power" than rallying the people around a program of struggle for political principles, the history of our country particularly as reflected in the life of Frederick Douglass is proof to the contrary.

Discussion of the honesty of these men has no place in such an article as this. Regardless of how sincere they may be, the objective result of their individual tactics has been to weaken and dissipate the political strength of Negro Chicago at this historic moment. Practical politics is based upon principle. Within this struggle for principle, great flexibility is possible. Around a minimum unity program which places the winning of the war above partisanship, the Negro political leadership of Chicago can give great aid and comfort to the struggle for national unity and against the home grown fascist Klan elements. But a change in the outlook of these in the main, splendid individuals will have to be effected.

A Program For Unity

MAY 2 1943

In the midst of this political disunity, the Communist Party has been diligently seeking to put through a program of unity of the Negro people and their integration into the whole war effort. Its influencce among most of the leaders mentioned is strong but not yet sufficiently strong to bring them together. There is need for those Party representatives in the trade union field and on the political front to make still more strenuous efforts to bring the other political forces among Negroes in Chicago to see that in unity of the Negro people rising around the war program lie the possibilities for a solution of their problems here at home.

The program of unity includes (a) the struggle for the passage of an Anti-Poll Tax Bill and an anti-lynching law, (b) the strengthening of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, and (c) a mixed division in the Army, (d) the elimination of the peonage and share-cropping system from war economy, and (e) the ending of discriminating practices in all phases of American life.

But this program cannot succeed if approached on a partisan basis.

Too many currents are exhausting the political energies of the Negro people when if canalized in the main war stream they can be a great asset in defeating Hitler and Hitlerism. It is hardly likely that the experiences of Chicago are unique. The lessons that can be learned through a study of the struggle for unity there can be helpful in every large city.

DEPRIEST WINS COUNCIL SEAT FORMERLY HELD IN '15

The Informer

April 17, 1943

CHICAGO.—(ANP) — Oscar DePriest, former congressman, is right back where he started. First Negro ever elected to the city council of Chicago back in 1915, the 72 year old Republican warhorse is again, an alderman, defeating the Democratic incumbent, Benjamin A. Grant, in the third ward race by a vote of 10,176 to 9,715 in Tuesday's election which also saw Congressman William L. Dawson's protege, William H. Harvey, defeat his GOP rival in the second ward, Mack C. Atkins, and win a council seat by a vote of 14,058 to 13,439.

Gets Majority

The election also saw both heavily populated Negro wards give a majority to Mayor Edward J. Kelley, Democratic incumbent, after his supporters pulled a master stroke by revealing in local weekly newspapers that his Republican foe, George B. McKibbin, was a signer of a residential restrictive covenant barring Negroes from living in the district where McKibbin lived.

By his election DePriest becomes dean of the city council. A native of Florence, Ala., he grew up in Kansas where he attended school and has lived in Chicago 53 years. He was Cook county commissioner 1904-1908, second ward alderman 1915-17, assistant state commerce commissioner 1927-28, congressman from 1928-34 and Republican ward committeeman since 1928.

His opponent, Ald. Grant, 45, was elected in 1939. He was a former deputy coroner and had attended Fisk and the Univ. of Chicago. Neither he nor DePriest was recommended by the Citizens association, an impartial body which passes on the qualifications of all candidates as a guide to voters.

After the election, Grant said, "Looks like the people don't want intelligent and progressive leadership. Another thing, the precinct captains were telling voters in my ward 'Vote for Kelly and DePriest.' That's something I couldn't understand."

Harvey Wins

Harvey, second ward winner, eliminated Ald. Earl B. Dickerson in the primaries a few weks ago. A former student at Lincoln (Mo.) and John Marshall Law school, the 38 year old alderman was a city fireman and secretary of Dawson's Democratic ward organization.

CHICAGO, Ill.—Oscar Stanton DePriest, the son of former congressman Oscar DePriest, who was elected Alderman of the third ward this year here, was appointed this week by Gov. Dwight H. Green to serve as a member of the Illinois State Commission. Young DePriest is at present acting secretary to his father, and formerly held a State Banking Auditor's position. Mr. DePriest is a graduate of Howard University and Lewis Institute of Technology.

COMMISSIONER



Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

WE NEED POLITICAL UNITY

FEB 13 1943

William L. Dawson, recently elected congressman from the First Congressional district of Illinois, and Earl B. Dickerson, Chicago alderman and a prominent member of the President's Fair Employment Practice committee, are in the throes of a desperate political struggle. We raise this question to the point of editorial comment because the fight is not the concern alone of these two men—it affects us all.

Mr. Dawson and Mr. Dickerson are national figures, they have come up in a period of national crises when the question of Negro liberation has reached its highest political expression since 1861. They are both of them servants of the people—or that at least is what they are supposed to be.

No principal differences separate these two men—both are supporters of the Roosevelt program of victory; both have proved themselves worthy and able spokesmen for our country and their own people. Their fight is one, therefore, that can only do injury to the cause of the Negro people and as well to the cause of national unity and their Commander-in-Chief. It is consequently necessary to speak very frankly for their benefit and for our own.

Personal quarrels between two leading political figures which may eliminate one or perhaps both of them from service to their country's cause and their people are, we believe, to be sharply condemned at such a time as this. The country is worried by it. These men do not live in a vacuum. The eyes of millions are upon them.

The Defender would like to see them get together—it would use its good offices to that effect if possible.

Certainly neither of these men can possibly see in the other a real enemy. Their enemies are the enemies of the American people—the enemies of the Negro people. They must turn their fight against these despicable foes. They must turn their attention to the fight against Martin Dies, the Poll Tax congressmen, the enemies of the Fair Employment Practice committee, defeatists who seek to strike at all labor and especially to deny to Negro labor job security. These are mutual enemies of Congressman Dawson and Alderman Dickerson.

There is a war to be won and for this unity of all anti-Fascist forces is necessary. There is no time for inner struggles of men whose cause is one and the same.

It is clear that only our enemies can profit by such a struggle as is now taking place. Both men are too big for such a thing.

We call upon these leaders to bring halt to their policies of disunity in order that the unity of the Negro people may thereby be hastened and our country strengthened.

FEB 13 1943

Congressman Dawson Discusses Plans;

JAN 1 1 1943

Says He Will Help "Everybody I Can"

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—William L. Dawson, newly elected representative of the first district of Illinois, received a small distinguished group of Negroes Wednesday morning in his office in the House Office building, and in an informal press conference discussed his attitudes and future plans as far as he could visualize them.

Prior to being sworn in at the official ceremony in the well of the house of representatives, Mr. Dawson graciously welcomed questions and asked the cooperation and assistance of those interested in making his post one which would serve the people of the nation and serve them well.

One of the first questions asked Congressman Dawson was whether or not he had been assigned as yet to any committees. Such assignments are of utmost importance since most of the work in congress is done in committee.

Mr. Dawson said he had not been assigned as yet although he hoped he would be placed on the house committee for the District of Columbia.

JAN 1 1 1943

Since Mr. Dawson married a Washingtonian, he did not meet the acute housing problem which faces most newcomers to the district. He laughed the question off when put to him.

Asked if he would confine his aid and assistance merely to members of his own constituency, Mr. Dawson said:

JAN 1 1 1943

"I will see everybody who comes to see me. I will help everybody I can help. I intend to do whatever I can for I believe the plight of one Negro in one case is the plight of every other Negro. Over the long run, there is something I may be able to learn through this practice."

Asked if he were planning to introduce any legislation this session, Mr. Dawson replied "I am not interested in introducing any measures at this time. Whenever I do, I expect to get them through. I am grateful to many men from northern states who have expressed their willingness to work with me and am satisfied with the results of my brief talks with them.

"I don't know very much about this job to which I have been elected, but I promise it won't take long to learn about it.

"Many of you may not see eye to eye with me but let's not fight on methods of getting things done. On the vital problems which confront us, I am seeking and willing to accept advice.

JAN 1 1 1943

"I know what segregation in the army means, since I served in the last war," Mr. Dawson in reply to a question as to his attitude on this matter. "It is a damnable thing anywhere and I resent it. To me, there is but one family, the human family."

The congressman said he had not considered any plans for post war actions.

JAN 1 1 1943

In thanking Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune who was among the guests present, Mr. Dawson tributed her as one of the greatest living human beings. She brought the best wishes of the women's groups which she represented. In reply, Mr. Dawson told her he too was interested in the problems confronting Negro women. "I never believed my father had more brains than my mother," he said during the talk. "Any discrimination practiced against womanhood is as much slavery as is practiced against a whole group."

Present were Judge Herman Moore of the Virgin Islands federal court; Judge William H. Hastie, civilian aide to the secretary of war; Truman Gibson, assistant to Hastie; Rev. Marshall Shepherd, member of the Pennsylvania legislature; Dr. William H. Thompkins, recorder of deeds; Josiah Gibson of Baltimore, Laurel Foster of the war department, P. B. Young, Norfolk, Va., editor; Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune; Earl Dickerson of FEPC; Jesse Mitchell, president Industrial bank; several newspaper men and the congressman's staff. The meeting was arranged by W. L. Houston, director of the colored division of the National Democratic committee. Several notables invited sent wires of regret.

Mr. Dawson was affable and genial. Impeccably dressed in a gray business suit, the congressman was at ease during the entire hour in which he was questioned and handled the situation with poise and to the utmost satisfaction of those present.

JAN 1 1 1943

He had to terminate his conference to meet with the Illinois delegation at 11 A. M. in a meeting to determine committee assignments and other matters interesting to the delegation.

Promptly at noon, when the 78th session of congress was called to order by Speaker Samuel Rayburn, Mr. Dawson along with a number of other new congressmen was sworn in and took his seat ready for business.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

WILL SERVE ALL NEGROES, HE PLEDGES

JAN 1 6 1943

Hopes To Get Position On D. C. Committee; GOP Assailed

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Expressing his determination to serve the nation's thirteen million Negroes from coast to coast in addition to the First Illinois congressional district, Rep. William L. Dawson took his seat in the House of Representatives last week as the third Negro to represent Illinois in Congress.

Previous to his induction, Rep. Dawson received a small distinguished group of Negroes in his office in the House Office building, and in an informal press conference discussed his attitudes and future plans as far as he could visualize them.

JAN 1 6 1943

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Since Dawson married a Washingtonian, he did not meet the acute housing problem which faces most newcomers to the district. He laughed at the question when put to him.

Asked if he would confine his aid and assistance merely to members of his own constituency, Dawson said:

JAN 1 6 1943

"I will see everybody who comes to see me. I will help everybody I can help. I intend to do whatever I can for I believe the plight of one Negro in one case is the plight of every other Negro. Over the long run, there is something I may be able to learn through this practice."

Willing to Get Advice

Asked if he were planning to introduce any legislation this session, Dawson replied, "I am not interested in introducing any measures at this time. Whenever I do, I expect to get them through. I am grateful to many men from northern states who have expressed their willingness to work with me and am satisfied with the results of my brief talks with them.

"I don't know very much about this job to which I have been elected, but I promise it won't take long to learn about it.

"Many of you may not see eye to eye with me, but let's not fight on methods of getting things done. On the vital problems which confront us, I am seeking and willing to accept advice.

"I know what segregation in the army means, since I served in the last war," Dawson in reply to a question as to his attitude on this matter. "It is a damnable thing anywhere and I resent it. To me, there is but one family, the human family."

JAN 1 6 1943

No Post-War Stand

The congressman said he had not considered any plans for post war actions.

In thanking Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune who was among the guests present, Dawson tributed her as one of the greatest living human beings. She brought the best wishes of the women's groups which she represented. In reply, Dawson told her he too was interested in the problems confronting Negro women.

"I never believed my father had more brains than my mother," he said during the talk. "Any discrimination practiced against womanhood is as much slavery as is practiced against a whole group."

Present were Judge Herman Moore of the Virgin Islands federal court; Judge William H. Hastie, civilian aide to the secretary of war; Truman Gibson, assistant to Hastie; Rev. Marshall Shepherd, member of the Pennsylvania legislature; Dr. William H. Thompkins, recorder of deeds; Josiah Gibson of Baltimore, Lemuel Foster of the war department, P. B. Young, Norfolk, Va., editor; Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune; Earl Dickerson of FEPC; Jessie Mitchell, president Industrial bank; several newspaper men and the congressman's staff. The meeting was arranged by W. L. Houston, director of the colored division of the National Democratic committee. Several notables invited sent wires of regret.

Assails G.O.P.

The presence in Congress of Dawson is the best evidence of the good faith of the Democratic party in the hopes it holds out to colored leadership, declared Houston in an interview later.

JAN 1 6 1943

While Dawson was elected by the Democrats of the first Congressional district of Illinois, Houston pointed out, he will be the only spokesman in the halls of Congress of the colored people of the whole country.

"Moreover, Houston said, "Rep. Dawson will willingly accept the responsibility, and from my knowledge of the man I am certain he will discharge it ably and courageously.

"If the Republican party were as interested in the welfare of colored people as it pretends at election time," Houston added, "it would likewise nominate and elect to Congress colored men from Congressional districts which Republicans control.

"But instead of seeking to give colored people additional representation in Congress, Howard E. Spangler, recently elected Republican national chairman, is bending his energies toward forming a coalition with southern reactionaries to oppose President Roosevelt and his liberal policies."

Later in the day Congressman Dawson of Illinois was visited by Walter White, N.A.A.C.P. executive secretary, and Leslie Perry, administrative assistant in the N.A.A.C.P. White said, the N.A.A.C.P. will also push for the procedures on vigorous support of these bills and additional conferences and arrangements on federal aid to health and education.

JAN 1 6 1943

The N.A.C.P. will also push for the procedures on vigorous support an anti-poll tax bill to be reported by Baldwin of New York and an anti-lynch bill by Congressman Arthur Mitchell of Illinois to reduce representation from states where the right to vote is denied qualified voters. Plans of an anti-lynch legislation, an-are being completed, White said, and arrangements on from states where the right to vote

JAN 1 6 1943

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dawson Takes Seat; Announces Plans

JAN 16 1943

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14 (ANP)—William L. Dawson, newly-elected Representative of the First district of Illinois, received a distinguished group of Negroes last week in his office in the House Office building and, in an informal press conference, discussed his attitudes and future plans as far as he could visualize them.

Prior to being sworn in at the official ceremony in the well of the House of Representatives, Mr. Dawson graciously welcomed questions and asked the co-operation and assistance of those interested in making his post one which would serve the people of the nation and serve them well.

JAN 16 1943

NOT ON ANY COMMITTEE

One of the first questions asked Congressman Dawson was whether or not he had been assigned as yet to any committees. Such assignments are of utmost importance since most of the work in Congress is done in committee.

Mr. Dawson said he had not been assigned as yet although he hoped he would be placed on the House Committee for the District of Columbia.

PLANS "OVERALL" SERVICE

Asked if he would confine his aid and assistance merely to members of his own constituency, Mr. Dawson said: "I will see everybody who comes to see me. I will help everybody I can help."

Asked if he were planning to introduce any legislation this session, Mr. Dawson replied, "I am not interested in introducing any measures at this time. Whenever I do, I expect to get them through."

JAN 6 1943

"I know what segregation in the Army means, since I served in the last war," Mr. Dawson said in reply to a question as to his attitude on this matter.

The Congressman added he had not considered any plans for post-war actions.

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

Houston Introduces Dawson

JAN 14 1943

Washington, D. C.—The presence in Congress of Representative William Dawson, of Chicago, is the best evidence of the good faith of the Democratic party in the hopes it holds out to colored leadership, declared William L. Houston, director of the Colored Division of the Democratic National Committee in an interview last Wednesday.

While Mr. Dawson was elected by the Democrats of the first Congressional district of Illinois, Mr. Houston pointed out, he will be the only spokesman in the halls of Congress of the colored people of the whole country.

"Moreover," Mr. Houston said, "Mr. Dawson will willingly accept the responsibility, and from my knowledge of the man I am certain he will discharge it ably and courageously.

JAN 14 1943

"If the Republican party were as interested in the welfare of colored people as it pretends at election time" Mr. Houston added, "it would likewise nominate and elect to Congress colored men from Congressional districts which Republicans control.

"But instead of seeking to give colored people additional representation in Congress, Howard E. Spangler recently elected Republican national chairman, is bending his energies toward forming a coalition with reactionaries to oppose President Roosevelt and his liberal policies."

JAN 14 1943

The statement of Mr. Houston was in accord with expressions made by Mr. Dawson at a press conference in his offices shortly before he was sworn in as a member of the Seventy-eighth Congress. Mr. Houston had arranged the conference and invited prominent Democrats, Government officials and newspaper men to meet Mr. Dawson.

Atlanta Ga. Journal
January 20, 1943

Crackerland In Washington

Appropriations Committee Loses Some of Its Glory

By RALPH SMITH

The Atlanta Journal Bureau,
Mayflower Hotel,
Washington, D. C., Jan. 20.

THE ATTEMPT to justify the increase in the membership of the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives from 41 to 44 is but a feeble, unimpressive attempt to make virtue of a necessity—a necessity born of irresoluteness and timidity, at that. The Democrats lacked the resoluteness and courage to deny the demands of the Republicans for greater representation on the committee, and more, they hadn't the courage to reduce their own representation on the committee, although there were half a dozen Democratic vacancies on the committee.

The compromise, if the Democratic action can be dignified as a compromise, materially lessens the glory of the Appropriations Committee, or, rather, the distinction and honor of membership. As now constituted the committee represents better than 10 per cent of the total membership of the House, whereas during the first World War the Appropriations Committee represented a scant 5 per cent of the total membership. In a word, the committee was twice as exclusive in 1916-'17 as it is today.

It'll amaze you, but the minority today is nearly as strong numerically on the Appropriations Committee as the majority was in 1916-'17, yet there is none who'll contend that the committee operates more efficiently and effectively now than it did then.

Democrats Controlled Then

The Democrats controlled the House of Representatives in the first World War, as it does today, and a Democrat headed the Appropriations Committee—John J. Fitzgerald, of Brooklyn, a recent visitor and onlooker in this fair city. . . . And while Fitzgerald is a modest gentleman, he quietly confesses that, in his opinion, the Congress has had few, if any, appropriations committees whose roster included more able and courageous legislators.

"When the Democrats captured the Congress, just before Wilson's first election, the Appropriations Committee of which I became chairman, was composed of fourteen Democrats and eight Republicans, and I believe I can name most of these men," said Fitzgerald. "The group included three future Speakers and one famous ex-Speaker, also a future great Governor of a great state and a couple of cabinet officers.

"Yes, sir, I can see Joseph W. Byrns, of Tennessee, and Frederick H. Gillette of Massachusetts, who became Speakers, and Uncle Joe Cannon who had been Speaker . . . and I can envisage among my committee colleagues James M. Cox, who was to become a great governor of Ohio, and Albert Burleson, of Texas, who became Wilson's postmaster general, and James Good, of Iowa, who became a cabinet officer.

"Then I recall Tom Sisson, of Mississippi; Charles Bartlett, of Georgia; Joe Johnson, of South Carolina; Gene Kincaid, of New Jersey; Bill Borland, of Missouri; Swagar Sherley of Kentucky; George Rauch, of Indiana—all good Democrats."

Henry Clay's Double?

Judge Fitzgerald pictured in his mind's eye another memorable figure in the House of those days—William Sulzer, of New York, who was elected governor of his state only to be impeached and removed from office.

"Sulzer was an unusual character," said Fitzgerald. "He was an odd-looking man anyhow, bore somewhat of a resemblance to the pictures of Henry Clay and always sought to imitate, in appearance at least, the great Kentuckian.

"Bill Sulzer was a past-master at getting himself publicized, although his methods were rather sharp, to say the least. He was a prolific contributor to the Congressional Record, one of the great patrons of the United States mails. None valued nor used his mail frank more freely.

"He was chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, but played 'all over the lot,' so to speak. He had a speech in the Record on every controversial issue, and often a good speech. I recall an occasion when Sulzer received advance proofs of the committee report on the Clayton bill amending the Interstate Commerce Act. Sulzer changed it about a little, inserted it in the Record as an original speech of his own, and what a storm of criticism that provoked.

"Sulzer's election as Governor was a personal achievement in self-exploitation. Long before he offered as a candidate—years before, in fact—he began systematically flooding the rural districts of New York with copies of 'speeches' he had inserted in the Record, and the upstaters believed Sulzer was probably the only congressman from New York City. The following he built up in Republican counties elected him Governor."

Chicago's Crack Member

William Levi Dawson, who represents Illinois' First Congressional District in the House is a native Georgian, born in Albany April 28, 1886. Dawson's constituency are residents of the First and Second Wards of Chicago—the same constituency that sent Arthur Mitchell to Congress.

Record In State

NEW YORK. — A special New York Republic survey of the records of all congressmen in the last session on New Deal legislation this week disclosed that Rep. William L. Dawson, Democrat, of Illinois' 1st district, had the best pro-New Deal record in the entire state.

Out of a total of 19 test votes, Dawson voted favorably to the New Deal 14 times, unfavorably twice and was absent three times. No one, with the exception of Rep. Adolph Sabath, approached this record. Sabath, however, did not have as many votes as the Negro congressman.

Dawson is a Negro, and a very good citizen, well and widely respected no less among his own people than here in Washington by his associates in the House. He is quiet, respectful, unassuming, well informed, splendidly educated and forceful. He is a lawyer, speaks well, clearly and forcefully. He is a graduate of the Albany Normal School, Fisk University, attended Kent College of Law and graduated from Northwestern University Law School with the first World War, a Democratic alLL.D degree. He served in the 365th Infantry, a first lieutenant in the AEF in War, is a practicing attorney, a committeeman, former Democratic committeeman in Chicago.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Dawson Boasts Best Pro-FDR

52c-1943
The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

Hard Hitting FEPC Member Is Political Target Of Machine

JAN 22 1943

Chicago, Jan. 18 (ANP)—Preliminary skirmishing in Chicago's local political arena got under way immediately the new year was ushered in. The first repercussions, however, came Wednesday night when the Democratic organization of the famous Second ward met and acting under the command of Congressman William L. Dawson, who is also committeeman, did a near throat slitting job on Ald. Earl Dickerson by refusing to endorse Dickerson for reelection to his post in the Chicago City Council.

JAN 2 2 1943

Instead Dawson put forward and secured the aldermanic endorsement for one of his own lieutenants, young and little known William Harvey. Harvey, who has been a city fireman for a year, has worked as a secretary in Mr. Dawson's political office for some time but his advent into big time politics with so large a plum packed within his grasp has rather startled the old regular politicians.

JAN 2 2 1943

Congressman Dawson's action, a climax to the long fight which he and Dickerson have carried on, puts a dimmer temporarily at least on the brilliant career of the alderman who was his opponent for nomination as congressman on the democratic ticket last spring, and gave Dawson sweet revenge for the defeat which Dickerson handed him when the two were opponents for the job as alderman four years ago. At that time Dawson was a Republican and lost to Dickerson in a four way primary.

Congressman Dawson, a powerful cog in the political machine led by Mayor Edward J. Kelly, and Dickerson have been rivals for years. Dickerson has never had the sympathy or cooperation of the regular machine and has been consistently frowned upon by Mayor Kelly but has made a remarkable record in the Chicago city council. He has been an active campaigner for every advanced civic movement and for every measure which affected the welfare of Negroes.

JAN 2 2 1943

His work has brought him national attention and won him a place on the President's Fair Employment Practices committee, but hardly enough local support, some observers feel, to make it worthwhile for him to attempt to buck the machine. Others feel that the weak personal competition offered will enable Dickerson to prosecute successfully an independent campaign. He is said to be undecided whether to run independently.

After last April's congressional nominations when Dawson defeated Dickerson, the latter admitted defeat and campaigned for Dawson. He says that Dawson accepted his support silently when, had he thrown it to the Republicans, Dawson would surely have been defeated. Dickerson and his friends are quite vocal in their disappointment and over what they call the congressman's double crossing.

JAN 2 2 1943

Dawson's adherents, on the other hand, charge that Dickerson won't play politics in an organization manner, that he is a prima donna who regard himself as more important than the party machine and that there was no alternative but to crush him. Dawson presided at the meeting Wednesday night when the juggernaut rolled over the form of the prostrate Dickerson. He is reported to have offered to help Dickerson obtain a big federal appointment, a proffer which the alderman disdained, so Dawson acted on the premise that to the victor belongs the spoils. What may happen if Dickerson bucks the machine with an aroused public behind him remains to be seen.

JAN 2 2 194

The Republican organization under committeeman William E. King has endorsed M. C. Atkins, an undertaker formerly of Mississippi, well known among church and political folk. For the past half dozen years this once banner Republican ward has been thorough Democratic. The GOP is hoping that internal dissension among the Democrats and what they describe as a Republican trend, may given them an opportunity to slip back into the realm of patronage, jobs and control of perequisites.

A simpler situation exists in the Third ward. There committeeman Edward (Mike) Sneed, who was reelected as county commissioner last November, has patched up his differences with dynamic young Ald. Benjamin A. Grant. The regular organization endorsed Grant last Tuesday night for reelection. All he has to do now is to beat Oscar DePriest. Mr. DePriest, who is Republican committeeman for the Third ward, is still ambitious politically and despite his somewhat frail health had his organization name him to run for alderman, a job which he held some 30 years ago here. The primaries are held in early February.

Globe and Independent
Nashville. Tenn.

CONGRESSMAN DAWSON SEEKING TO DEFEAT EARL B. DICKERSON IN HOT POLITICAL BATTLE ON IN CHICAGO

Kelly-Nash Machine Refuses to Endorse Alderman, Who, As Member of FEPC, Has Been "Problem Child" of New Deal

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Instead Dawson put forward and secured the aldermanic endorsement for one of his own lieutenants, young and little known William Harvey. Harvey, who has been a city fireman for a year, has worked as secretary in Mr. Dawson's political office for some time but his advent into big time politics with so large a plum packed within his grasp has rather startled the old regular politicians.

Congressman Dawson's action, a climax to the long fight which he and Dickerson have carried on, puts a dimmer temporarily at least on the brilliant career of the alderman who was his opponent for nomination as congressman on the democratic ticket last spring, and gave Dawson sweet revenge for the defeat which Dickerson handed him when the two were opponents for the job as alderman four years ago. At that time Dawson was a Republican and lost to Dickerson in a four way primary.

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Dawson's adherents, on the other hand, charge that Dickerson won't play politics in an organization manner, that he is a prima donna who regards himself as more important than the party machine and that there was no alternative but to crush him. Dawson presided at the meeting Wednesday night when the juggernaut rolled over the form of the prostrate Dickerson. He is reported to have offered to help Dickerson obtain a big federal appointment, a proffer which the alderman disdained, so Dawson acted on the premise that to the victor belongs the spoils. What may happen if Dickerson bucks the machine with an aroused public behind him remains to be seen.

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JAN 22 1943

afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Dawson Opposes Curbs on Bureaus

WASHINGTON

Representative William L. Dawson, Democrat, of Illinois, voted "nay" on the following important roll-calls in the House last week:

On the amendment of Representative Everett M. Dirksen, Republican of Illinois (to the National War Agencies Appropriation Bill), reducing the appropriation of the Office of Price Administration from $165,000,000 to $130,000,000 in the fiscal years beginning July 1, adopted 188 to 141.

On the Dirksen amendment (to the Bill), providing that no part of the appropriation for the War Agencies Appropriation Act, and thereby reducing the OWMR from $34,472,504 to $28,472,504 for the fiscal years beginning July 1, adopted 218 to 114.

On the amendment of Representative Dirksen, Republican of Illinois, to the Bill, to require all OPA price policy in the formulation of Joe Starnes, Democrat, of Alabama (to the National War Agencies Appropriation Bill), to have at least two years of actual business experience, except the Administrator or Deputy Administrator, to have at least two years of actual business experience in the particular commodity which is engaged in, adopted 229 to 105.

On the amendment of Representative Dirksen, Republican of Illinois (to the National War Agencies Appropriation Bill), to require all OPA price policy in the formulation of Joe Starnes, Democrat, of Alabama (to the National War Agencies Appropriation Bill), to have at least two years of actual business experience in the particular commodity which is engaged in

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Promises to Aid Not Only Chicagoans But Any Negro Anywhere

New Representative Greeted by Group Of Washingtonians on His First Day In Office; Eye Committee Assignments

Jan. 15, 1943

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—William L. Dawson, newly elected representative of the first district of Illinois, received a small distinguished group of Negroes Wednesday morning in his office in the House Office building, and in an informal press conference discussed his attitudes and future plans as far as he could visualize them.

Prior to being sworn in at the official ceremony in the well of the house of representatives, Mr. Dawson graciously welcomed questions and asked the cooperation and assistance of those interested in making his post one which would serve the people of the nation and serve them well.

One of the first questions asked Congressman Dawson was whether or not he had been assigned as yet to any committees. Such assignments are of utmost importance since most of the work in congress is done in committee.

Not Assigned Yet

Mr. Dawson said he had not been assigned as yet although he hoped he would be placed on the house committee for the District of Columbia.

Since Mr. Dawson married a Washingtonian, he did not meet the acute housing problem which faces most newcomers to the district. He laughed the question off when put to him.

Asked if he would confine his aid and assistance merely to members of his own constituency, Mr. Dawson said:

"I will see everybody who comes to see me. I will help everybody I can help. I intend to do whatever I can for I believe the plight of one Negro in one case is the plight of every other Negro. Over the long run, there is something I may be able to learn through this practice."

Asked if he were planning to introduce any legislation this session, Mr. Dawson replied, "I am not interested in introducing any measures at this time. When I do, I expect to get them through. I am grateful to many men from northern states who have expressed their willingness to work with me and am satisfied with the results of my brief talks with them.

"I don't know very much about this job to which I have been elected, but I promise it won't take long to learn about it.

"Many of you may not see eye to eye with me but let's not fight on methods of getting things done. On the vital problems which confront us, I am seeking and willing to accept advice.

"I know what segregation in the army means, since I served in the last war," Mr. Dawson in reply to a question as to his attitude on this matter." It is a damnable thing anywhere and I resent it. To me, there is but one family, the human family."

The congressman said he had not considered any plans for post-war actions.

In thanking Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune who was among the guests present, Mr. Dawson tributed her as one of the greatest living hunman beings. She brought the best wishes of the women's groups which she represented.

In reply, Mr. Dawson told her he too was interested in the problems confronting Negro women. "I never believed my father had more brains than my mother," he said during the talk. "Any discrimination practiced against womanhood is as much slavery as is practiced against a whole group." Jan. 15, 1943

Mrs. Bethune A Guest

Present were Judge Herman Moore of the Virgin Islands federal court; Judge William H. Hastie, civilian aide to the secretary of war; Truman Gibson, assistant to Hastie; Rev. Marshall Shepherd, member of the Pennsylvania legislature; Dr. William H. Thompkins, recorder of deeds; Josiah Gibson of Baltimore, Lemuel Foster of the war department, P. B. Young, Norfolk, Va., editor; Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune; Earl Dickerson of FEPC; Jesse Mitchell, presdent, Industrial bank; several newspaper men and the congressman's staff.

The meeting was arranged by W. L. Houston, director of the colored division of the National Democratic committee.

Mets Illinois Delegates

Mr. Dawson was affable and genial. Impeccably dressed in a gray business suit, the congressman was at ease during the entire hour in which he was questioned and handled the situation with poise and to the utmost satisfaction of those present.

He had to terminate his conference to meet with the Illinois delegation at 11 a. m. in a meeting to determine committee assignments and other matters interesting to the delegation.

Promptly at noon, when the 78th session of congress was called to order by Speaker Samuel Rayburn, Mr. Dawson along with a number of other new congressmen was sworn in and took his seat for business.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia
DAWSON PLANS NO NEW LAWS

New Congressman Holds Press Conference

WASHINGTON, D. C.--In a morning press conference before his official reception last Wednesday as a representative in the United States Congress, William L. Dawson, sole Negro in the national legislature, outlined his part in upholding the common weal of American Democracy.

Some politics was thrown into the session, which was held in his office in the House Building, by William L. Houston, director of the colored division of the Democratic National Committee, who called attention to the attack on Roosevelt liberialism being forced by Republicans and South Democrats.

Mr. Dawson welcomed questions and asked the cooperation and assistance of those interested in making his post one which would serve the people of the nation and serve them well.

Asked if he would confine his aid and assistance merely to members of his own constituency, Mr. Dawson said:

"I will see everybody who comes to see me. I will help everybody I can help. I intend to do whatever I can for I believe the plight of one Negro in one case is the plight of every other Negro. Over the long run, there is something I may be able to learn through this practice."

TO LEGISLATION PLANNED

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AT CONFERENCE

JAN 16 1943

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The meeting was arranged by W. L. Houston, director of the colored division of the National Democratic committee. Several notables invited sent wires of regret.

JAN 16 1943

Mr. Dawson was affable and genial. Impeccable dressed in a gray business suit, the congressman was at ease during the entire hour in which he was questioned and handled the situation with poise and to the utmost satisfaction of those present.

He had to terminate his conference to meet with the Illinois delegation at 11 a. m. in a meeting to determine committee assignments and other matters interesting to the delegation.

Promptly at noon, when the 78th session of congress was called to order by Speaker Samuel Rayburn, Mr. Dawson along with a number of other new congressmen was sworn in and took his seat ready for business.

The presence in Congress of Representative Dawson is the best evidence of the good faith of the Republican party in the hopes it holds out to colored leadership.

"If the Republican party were as interested in the welfare of colored people as it pretends at election time."

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"If the Republican party were as interested in the welfare of colored people as it pretends at election time."

Mr. Houston added, "it would likewise nominate and elect colored men from districts which Republicans control.

"But instead of seeking to give colored people additional representation in Congress, Howard E. Spangler, recently elected Republican national chairman, is bending his energies toward forming a coalition with Southern reactionaries to oppose President Roosevelt and his liberal policies," he concluded.

52c-1943

Drew Pearson

Lend-Lease Solving Card Problem

Knoxville, Tenn. Journal
February 14, 1943

WASHINGTON—It was hushed up inside Congress, but the one Negro Congressman in the House of Representatives has been barred from the Committee on Post Office and Post Roads. Several members of the committee threatened to resign when the Negro's nomination was considered for the second time after being voted down once.

The Congressman is William Dawson, Democrat, from Chicago's First District. Dawson defeated Arthur Mitchell, Democrat, the one Negro Congressman in the last Congress.

Mitchell, who had many friends in Congress, was a member of the Post Office and Post Roads Committee, from which Dawson is now barred. So it is claimed that race prejudice is not involved. However, it looks as if Congressman Dawson might have a harder time than his predecessor. Here is what happened.

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However, his Kelly-Nash friends asked that Dawson's name be submitted again, and Representative Dingell of Michigan took the matter up with Rep. Thomas G. Burch of Virginia, chairman of the Post Office Committee. Burch said that one Congressman from Illinois, Noah Mason, Republican, was already on the committee.

Meanwhile an incident occurred which made several southern members of the Post Office Committee hit the ceiling. A Negro lobbyist, Edgar Brown, representative of the United Government Employes Union, contacted Chairman Burch and other members of the committee. According to them, he proceeded to lay down the law and demand that Dawson be placed on the committee, hinting reprisal at election time.

This ended the matter. Several members of the committee threatened to resign if Dawson were appointed, and as a compromise he was shunted to the Insular Affairs Committee, headed by Joe L. Smith of West Virginia.

Note: Ex-Congressman Arthur Mitchell of Chicago once made a speech about Lobbyist Edgar Brown in which he said: "He belongs to that group of leaders of my race

DAWSON TAKES OATH OF OFFICE AS MEMBER OF 78th CONGRESS

Peoples Voice
N.Y.N.Y.

WASHINGTON--William L. Dawson, third successive Negro sent to the federal ligislature from Chicago, official

Illinois (Congressman Dawson)

ly took oath as a member of the 78th congress of the US last Wednesday, Jan. 6. Shortly before, he

.declared emphatically against segregation in all forms;

.pledged his whole hearted support of the War Secretary's Civilian Aide, William Hastie, in seeking improvement of conditions and treatment of Negro troops, and

.frankly admitted he could not claim extensive knowledge of the task before him but, in the same breath, promised to learn as fast as possible and thus insure the best possible account of himself.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

PLANS NOT COMPLETE

Dawson admitted he has no definite plans for introducing legislation at present but indicated he had reason to expect any measure introduced by him to pass.

"I am grateful to many men in Congress from the North," he said, "who have expressed their willingness to work with me and am satisfied with the results of my brief talks with them."

JAN 16 1943

The conference was arranged by W. L. Houston, director, colored division, Democratic National Committee. Attending were some of the outstanding Negroes in the country including Judge Herman Moore of the Virgin Islands, Judge Hastie, Truman Gibson of the War Department, William H. Thompkins, Record of Deeds; Marshall Shepard of the Pennsylvania state legislature; Earl Dickerson, FEPC member; Josiah Gibson of Baltimore, Lemuel Foster of the War Department, Mrs. Bethune, P. B. Young of Norfolk, Jesse H. Mitchell, president, Industrial Bank of Washington and several others.



CONGRESSMAN DAWSON
Willing to learn

NAACP Pledges Dawson Its All-Out Support

WASHINGTON—On the opening day of the 78th Congress, Congressman William Dawson of Illinois district was visited by Walter White, NAACP executive Secretary and Leslie Perry, administrative assistant in NAACP Washington Bureau. White and Perry offered the new congressman the cooperation of the NAACP and particularly the Washington Bureau it was learned this week.

He closed his address with the advice that through the use of intelligence "instead of hate, we will make the Constitution of the United States not mockery but living reality."

Only Negro in Congress Sees Decline of Prejudice After War

Chicago Democrat Isn't Disturbed by 'White Supremacy' Talk of Colleagues

By VOLTA TORREY
PM's Bureau

APR 23 1943

PM Exclusive

WASHINGTON, Apr. 23. — Rep. William Levin Dawson, 57, a Chicago Democrat, is the only Negro now in Congress. He is a big, well-groomed man with a soft, musical voice.

A Bible, two heavy volumes on foreign policy and a *Congressional Directory* stand on his desk between two small seated figures of Lincoln. The bookends were copied from the statue in the Lincoln Memorial here. On the office wall, in the most conspicuous place, is a photograph of Vice President Henry Wallace.

Rep. Dawson was born in Georgia. He went to the Albany (Ga.) Normal School, Fisk University and on to Northwestern University in Chicago. He has been in politics for a long time and always wanted to come to Congress. He was first a committeeman for his district, then an alderman. This is his first term in Congress. But he has missed many meetings. He has been home, carrying his district for the Democrats in the recent Chicago municipal election.

APR 23 1943

Veteran

He has been in politics for a long time and always wanted to come to Congress. He was first a committeeman for his district, then an alderman. This is his first term in Congress. But he has missed many meetings. He has been home, carrying his district for the Democrats in the recent Chicago municipal election.

APR 23 1943

War I Veteran

He declares that he was attracted to the Democratic party originally because of its stand on his desk between two small seated figures of Lincoln. The bookends were liberalism. He is a loyal follower of both Lincoln Me- President Roosevelt and Mayor Ed Kelly. In World War I, Dawson was a lieuten-

Dawson Holds Problems Are Identical Throughout Nation

MAR 27 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia
MAR 27 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Problems of Negroes throughout the country are identical with those of Chicagoans, and every successful effort to find a solution for the constituents back home will be a help to other Negroes, declared Congressman William L. Dawson, Chicago Democrat, in a recent speech at the Banneker Junior High School here.

The meeting was sponsored by the Howard Park Civic Association.

The congressman made it clear that he is not looking through rose-colored glasses in his relations with his colleagues of the House.

The fact is," he said, "that I don't give a rip about them and I know that they don't give a rip about me. But in coming here it is my hope to be of some service in solving some of the problems in the United States."

KNOWS SOU

MAR 27 1943

Mr. Dawson did not attempt to turn his attention from the plight of the Negro in the south and elsewhere. He recognized that there is much injustice, "having come from Georgia," as he reminded his listeners.

But he saw no good to be achieved in a constant harangue of the "ills of which we all know." He deplored lynching but maintained "that there is going to be some more dying in the south" before anything like democracy is fully realized.

"If a Negro has got to die in the south in order to arouse sentiment," he declared, "I say that that Negro lynched has not died in vain either for his race or for America. I would as soon see a Negro die in Georgia as I would to see him die in Africa or anywhere else.

MAR 27 1943

"Nobody is going to give you anything if it is worth having," he insisted. "They want it for themselves. You will therefore have to go out and take it, not by physical force necessarily, but by the

ant in the AEF. He was gassed and wounded. He came out of that war embittered and disillusioned. But he does not expect "the peacetime social structure of the Army" to survive this war. He is convinced that this war will lead to better understandings.

"There is no aristocracy in death," he says softly.

As the need increases for using every asset and every resource of America, he continues, there will be less discrimination against Negroes. Such issues as segregation, he feels, "fade into insignificance in the light of the bigger questions raised by this war."

"America's enemies now," he explains, "are the foes of all minorities."

Denounced by Communists

Rep. Dawson, therefore, merely shrugs at the "white supremacy" talk of some members of Congress. He thinks about the loyalty to democracy of Negroes in Africa. He discourages agitation for "a march on Washington." He has been denounced by American Communists. He does not complain of minor social taboos here.

"I've a job to do," he insists, "and I don't want to be distracted from it."

That job, as he sees it, is to win friends and more understanding for his own and all underprivileged people. He is confident of his ability to make friends, and even more sure of his people's ability to continue their patient progress.

He believes that as a Negro in Congress he should neither have an inferiority complex nor a chip on his shoulder.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Why Dawson Isn't on P.O. Committee

FEB 20 1943

FEB 20 1943

WASHINGTON

An explanation of Congressman William L. Dawson's failure to gain membership on the Committee on Post Office and Post Roads was given Sunday in Drew Pearson's daily newspaper column, "Washington Merry-Go-Round."

Pearson ruled out discrimination as a factor, pointing out that Dawson's predecessor, Arthur W. Mitchell, was elected to the committee, but revealed that several members threatened to resign in face of persistent efforts to force Dawson's election. He said:

"The Kelly-Nash machine elected Dawson and asked that he replace Mitchell on the committee. There were six vacancies and eight candidates. Dawson ran eighth, so didn't qualify.

FEB 20 1943

Pressure Resented

"But his friends asked that Dawson's name be resubmitted, and Representative Dingell of Michigan took it up with Rep. Thomas G. Burch of Virginia, chairman of the committee. Burch said one Congressman from Illinois, Noah Mason, Republican, was already on the committee.

"Meanwhile, a colored lobbyist, Edgar Brown, for the United Government Employees' Union, contacted Chairman Burch and other members. They say he demanded that Dawson go on the committee, hinting election reprisal.

"Several members threatened to resign if Dawson were appointed and as a compromise he was shunted to the Insular Affairs Committee, headed by Joe L. Smith of West Virginia."

FEB 20 1943

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.



FIGHTS POLL TAX—Congressman William L. Dawson of the 1st Congressional District of Illinois, triumphed again with speech of his Congressional career when he spoke before the House of Congress recently. Dignitaries, including Edwin Barclay President of the Republic of Liberia, are said to have congratulated the Congressman on his Anti-Poll Tax address.

Jacksonville, Fla., Times-Union
February 14, 1943

WASHINGTON

Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.

IT WAS hushed up inside Congress, but the one Negro Congressman in the House of Representatives has been barred from the Committee on Postoffice and Post Roads. Several members of the committee threatened to resign when the negro's nomination was considered for the second time after being voted down once.

The Congressman is William Dawson, Democrat, from Chicago's first district. Dawson defeated Arthur Mitchell, Democrat, the one negro congressman in the last Congress.

Mitchell, who had many friends in Congress, was a member of the Postoffice and Post Roads committee, from which Dawson is now barred. So it is claimed that race prejudice is not involved. However, it looks as if Congressman Dawson might have a harder time than his predecessor. Here is what happened.

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Meanwhile an incident occurred which made several Southern members of the Postoffice committee hit the ceiling. A negro lobbyist, Edgar Brown, representative of the United Government Employes Union, contacted Chairman Burch and other members of the committee. According to them, he proceeded to lay down the law and demand that Dawson be placed on the committee, hinting reprisal at election time.

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Note: Ex-Congressman Arthur Mitchell of Chicago once made a speech about Lobbyist Edgar Brown in which he said: "He belongs to that group of leaders of my race who have been responsible for much of the misunderstanding and trouble that we have in this country between races."

PINOCHLE LEND-LEASE—

Thanks to Yankee ingenuity and "reciprocal" lend-lease from the British, our troops in England will be able to keep up with two of their favorite card games—poker and pinochle.

Army morale officers recently were in a dither about a shortage of poker chips in A. E. F. camps in England. The British don't play poker, and it was impossible to buy chips anywhere in the Isles. However, the problem finally was solved by the troops themselves, who turned their spare change into British farthings (equal to half an American cent).

The farthings have proved a good substitute for chips and cost U. S. soldiers nothing extra for their poker enjoyment.

Pinochle also posed a problem for a time. The British do not play pinochle and no regulation decks could be obtained. But the British government finally solved matters by offering to manufacture a special lot of 100,000 pinochle decks, which will be turned over to U. S. Army post exchanges free of charge under "reciprocal" lend-lease.

COSTLY DELAY—

President Roosevelt recently asked Congress to appropriate $5,287,615 to pay the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Co. for ships built during the last World War.

The President was forced to make this request as the result of a court decision. Though the courts ruled that the Government must pay Bethlehem, they took some bare-knuckled digs at the company and its manager for what they called "daylight robbery."

One court found that "the managers for the contractor adopted the famous Rob Roy distinction who admitted he was a robber but proudly proclaimed he was no thief."

The Supreme Court finally ruled against the Government, however, on the ground that it had delayed too long in bringing suit.

NORTH AFRICAN DIPLOMACY

Here are some of the moves inside the State Department which contributed to the fumbling of U. S. Policy in North Africa.

Before our troops landed, French North African affairs had been under the State Department's Near Eastern Division, which specializes on Arab tribes, the Mohammedan countries, Africa, etc. But Harry Villard, nephew of crusading publisher Oswald Garrison Villard, had rowed so violently with the Board of Economic Warfare over exchange vessels, that it was considered wise to shift North African affairs from Villard and the Near Eastern Division to the State Department's European Division.

Thus some of the progressive young men in the Near Eastern Division who had lived and worked in North Africa, knew its customs, its prejudices, were divested of influence.

They believed it quite possible to treat General DeGaulle in a friendly manner, not as an enemy. They had been dealing with him in Syria—which the Free French rule—and got along with him.

However, the more rarefied gentlemen in the sedate European Division apparently believed that DeGaulle was pure black and the Vichyites surrounding General Giraud pure white. There were no shadings in between. Sam Reber, one of the European experts recently sent to North Africa, was the ghost-writer for Secretary Hull's famous statement castigating the "so-called Free French" and demanding that they get out of the island of St. Pierre-Miquelon.

De Gaulle carried the banner against Hitler for two years, but some men in the State Department seemed to hold this against him.

CAPITAL CHAFF—

Dorothy Detzer, vivacious secretary of the Women's International League, has reported to the Committee on Indian Freedom that she interviewed nine senators, asked them to introduce a resolution for Indian freedom. They vigorously refused....One of the roads running through the woods around Ft. Benning, Ga., is labelled "Burma Road," another "Chungking Approach." But most popular among soldiers is "the Road to Singapore," because at the end they hope to find Dorothy Lamour....Interesting question: Why is it that Army air crashes during training and operations right here in the U.S.A. are military secrets? Could it be that some persons are trying to protect themselves from public indignation?....Economic Czar Jimmy Byrnes has had some rather potent things to say privately about food production incompetence in the office of the Secretary of Agriculture.

ARMY vs. NAVY—

The Selective Service System isn't advertising it, but there has been some fierce rowing behind the scenes over the induction standards of the Army and Navy.

Though the Army has liberalized its physical and mental requirements to increase the number of draft eligibles and likewise keep the induction of married men at a minimum, the Navy still clings to the higher standards in effect while it was taking only enlisted men.

Virtually all physical requirements are higher for the Navy, but the biggest difference is in the mentality tests for the two services. Navy induction doctors won't pass a man unless he has a fair I. Q., whereas Army doctors are required to approve lower standards.

Result is that thousands of inductees who express a preference for the Navy are turned down and find themselves in an Army uniform instead. The fact that the Army has to take these Navy "castoffs" is bitter medicine to War Department highups; and Brig. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, Selective Service director, made a strong protest about it behind closed doors recently to the War Manpower Commission. "It's affected us plenty," exploded Hershey. "The Navy selects whom it wants and the Army gets all the

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Dothan, Ala. Eagle
January 3, 1943

Back Home In South

(ALABAMA JOURNAL)

Every Southern man who knows the Negro man from a lifetime of close contact is bound to be moved by the sentiments expressed in Congress the other day by Arthur W. Mitchell. Mitchell was the only Negro in Congress. He was elected as a Democrat and was not a candidate for reelection. His story is especially interesting to Alabamians, for he was born in Florence and was educated at Tuskegee where he served for a time as office boy to Booker T. Washington. Southern men, black or white, have rarely found anything to criticize in Mitchell's conduct, or in his speeches. Here are some extracts from his farewell remarks in Congress that deserve wide circulation:

JAN 3 1943

"I am leaving Congress now of my own free will. I was not a candidate for reelection. I chose not to be a candidate because I felt there was a bigger work which I could do for my people, and particularly for my beloved Southland, than I could do here in Congress, and before I finish these few remarks I shall talk about the work I expect to do when I leave Congress . . .

"I am not going to Chicago, to New York, or to remain in Washington; I am going back South, where I was born and reared, not to the State of Alabama, but to the State of Virginia; and I have a very definite reason and purpose in doing so. I realize that I represent a minority group in this country. From time to time there are grave misunderstandings that could be worked out if we were a little more patient, a little more tolerant, and studied these things a little more carefully. I believe I can make a contribution to the great work that was carried forward by my leader, and my teacher, and my benefactor. I refer now to Booker Washington. It was a happy privilege of mine to study and to serve under him, and I have tried here to reflect the beautiful spirit I saw always emanating from the life of that great leader, that great statesman.

JAN 3 1943

"Tomorrow I go to live in the great State of Virginia. If you see me twenty-four hours from now, you will see me in overalls on my own farm. I go down there to dedicate anew my life and every bit of energy I possess to working out a better understanding between the two races in the South, not in a spirit of bitterness, but in a spirit of understanding, a spirit of toleration, a spirit that I believe will lead to a better state in life."

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Dawson vs. Mitchell

JAN 9 - 1943

Congressman William L. Dawson, who succeeds Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell as representative in Congress from the first district of Illinois, has made a good start. He has announced that while he will represent his Illinois constituents, he will never forget the interest of Negroes generally and specifically. For that reason and for others, Negroes welcome his advent into the Halls of the United States Congress.

We all know that Mr. Dawson will have his hands full representing the residents of the First Illinois District who elected him. He owes to them a very definite duty. We are glad he also realizes that, being the only Negro in Congress, Negroes throughout the United States desire him to represent them whenever it becomes necessary. We are further glad that even though he is without portfolio, he has agreed to be our representative.

JAN 9 - 1943

Negroes can now expect action. For eight years we had a Congressman in Congress but no representative. His views as to who he should represent were exactly the opposite of those held by Mr. Dawson. As a result, Arthur W. Mitchell "pooped in, pooped, and pooped out." No one will miss him; not even his constituents. Eight years in Congress and he never served on an important committee; made no important or challenging speeches; entertained no worthy ideas. He retires to an unearned rest in a newly constructed home, built from money he did not earn as a representative of his people.

We can expect more from Congressman Dawson. A graduate of Harvard University, a lawyer of ability, a former Chicago Alderman, he is seasoned with the experience, personality, tact and devotion to principles that combine to make a great statesman.

There is much to be done for Negroes in America, and Mr. Dawson can help perform the tasks. He can be of great help to Negroes in the District of Columbia, who, according to officials of the District Government and the morons of its citizens, have no rights that white people are bound to respect. Even though he is a Congressman, being a Negro, Mr. Dawson will soon find that out.

JAN 9 - 1943

The Tribune welcomes Mr. Dawson to Washington as the avowed representative of both his Illinois constituency and the 13,000,000 American Negroes.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Tolerance, Good Will Emphasized By Retired Solon

JAN 2 1943

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31—Arthur W. Mitchell left Washington last week and headed back for the Sunny South, there to devote the rest of his life, "to bringing about better understanding between my people and those with whom we live."

"I am going to form an organization of leading white and colored people, not a protest organization, but an organization on broader lines," said the retiring solon, whose life story and accurate prediction of his future work was a feature of The Pittsburgh Courier for several weeks recently.

JAN 2 1943

WILL BE DEDICATED TO UNDERSTANDING

The first Negro Democrat ever to be elected to Congress stated that the organization which he had in mind would be dedicated to understanding, tolerance and good will and added that by those principles alone it would seek to accomplish a program for the good of all.

Mitchell intends to seek an audience with all governors of southern states. "I want their counsel on how to proceed and I want their co-operation," he said.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT PAID TRIBUTE

After his farewell address in the House as a member of the body, including many southerners who have served with him, rose and paid tribute to him.

President Roosevelt and other high government officials joined in honoring him.

JAN 2 1943

Wrote the President: "In leaving Congress you must have a feeling of satisfaction that you have had a part in the constructive legislation which has meant so much to the welfare of the people as a whole."

Abbeville, S. C. Press and Banner
December 24, 1942

NEGRO RETIRES FROM CONGRESS "TO SERVE RACE"

Washington, Dec. 22.—Having voluntarily relinquished anassured re-election to Congress a gray-haired Chicago Negro who was once Booker T. Washington's office boy last week headed back for the sunny South to devote the balance of his life "to bringing about better understanding between my people and those with whom we live."

As he began his journey to a farm south of Petersburg, Va., Arthur W. Mitchell, the first Negro Democrat ever to be elected to Congress, carried with him the personal good wishes of President Roosevelt, numerous high Government officials and scores of members of the House with whom he had served since 1933.

"I leave," said the 58-year-old Mitchell, "with gladness in my heart and high hopes that I may better serve my people in the new task that I have chosen.

To Form Organization

"I am going to form an organization of leading white and colored people, not a protest organization, but an organization on broader lines. I will dedicate it to understanding, tolerance and good will, and by those principles —and those principles alone— seek to accomplish a program for the good of all."

Mitchell, whose farewell address in the House Wednesday was the signal for member after member, many of them Southerners to rise and pay tribute to him, said his first aim was to obtain an audience with the governor of each state in the South.

"I want their counsel on how to proceed and I want their co-operating," Mitchell asserted. "I have repeatedly spoken in the House against those of my race who have succumbed to agitation and aligned themselves with force.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

MITCHELL WILL DEVOTE LIFE TO BETTER RACE RELATIONS

JAN 9 - 1943

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Members of Congress tarried long enough after adjournment last week to stop and shake hands with the retiring congressman, Arthur Mitchell who for eight years has represented the first district of Chicago in the national law making body. Mr. Mitchell was the center of a group which gathered around him to wish him well in his new venture.

JAN 9 - 1943

Declaring his intention of retiring to his farm down in Virginia giving the rest of his time to the formation of an interracial group to bring about a better understanding between the races, Mr. Mitchell found an interesting and interested audience.

To Tour South

He said his first efforts would be toward discussing with the governor of Virginia a program which would make for the betterment of southern racial relations in general. He further said he would make a tour of the south and attempt to interest all governors of the southern states in his program which calls for prolonged study on the problems which for so long have beset the south.

Without violence, but with educational programs and with similar features, Mr. Mitchell hopes to bring about this change so greatly needed. He is opposed to methods presently in use and hopes through his influence to see that certain changes are brought about.

JAN 9 - 1943

Nips Re-election Rumor

His mansion down in Virginia is ready for occupancy and from its spacious settings, he hopes to accomplish a great good.

His statement set at ease the rumors which had prevailed to the effect that it was his intention of returning to congress as a member of the body from the district which previously sent John M. Langston there.

Mitchell's seat will be filled by William Dawson who will take the oath on January 3 when the 78th Congress convenes.

JAN 9 - 1943

Birmingham, Ala. News
January 6 1943

Back Home To Serve

Most Southern white persons like to think that the differences between the white and Negro races in the South can best be smoothed out by Southerners without assistance (or "meddling," as some call it) of well-meaning persons from other sections. That attitude is sincerely held by most Southerners, although there are a few who insist on it merely to cloak their hopes of continuing a situation which permits exploitation of the Negro.

There are also Negroes who believe that the difficulties can be worked out to the best advantage of both races through tolerant and sympathetic and patient cooperation of all the people of the South, Negro and white. Among these Negroes is Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell, of Chicago, who has just completed four terms in Congress as the first Negro Democrat ever to be elected to that body.

Mitchell did not choose to seek reelection. He is voluntarily retiring to private life. On the last day of the 77th Congress, Mitchell made a speech to his colleagues that has been widely acclaimed for its sincerity. Members of Congress interrupted his speech to praise his work and character. Among those so speaking were several from the South, including Congressman John Sparkman, of the Eighth Alabama District.

Born in Alabama, educated at Tuskegee Institute, later a school teacher and principal in Alabama, Mitchell went on to Chicago to practice law. But he leaves Congress to return to the South, not to Alabama, but to Virginia. "I feel," he told Congress in his farewell address, "that there is a bigger work which I can do for my people, and particularly for my beloved Southland, than I could do here in Congress."

There was a very definite reason, he told his colleagues, why he was going back to a farm in the South. "I realize," he said, "that I represent a minority group in this country. From time to time there are grave misunderstandings that could be worked out if we were a little more patient, a little more tolerant, and studied these things a little more carefully. I believe I can make a contribution to the great work that was carried forward by my leader, and my teacher, and my benefactor. I refer now to Booker T. Washington. . . .

"Tomorrow I go to live in Virginia. If you see me 24 hours from now, you will see me in overalls on my own farm. I go down there to dedicate my life and every bit of energy I possess to working out a better understanding between the two races of the South, not in a spirit of bitterness, but in a spirit of understanding, a spirit of toleration, a spirit that I believe will lead us to a better state of life."

In the conclusion of his farewell speech, Mitchell paid tribute to the reception he had received in Congress. Differences of opinion there had been, he said, but "there rests in my heart and soul no bitterness of any kind against any member of this House. In fact, there is no individual in the world against whom I carry bitterness. Like Booker T. Washington, long since I determined that I shall never allow anyone to make me stoop so low as to hate him."

If a spirit like that could animate the real leaders of the South, of both races, there would be no racial "problem" in the South. There would be differences of opinion and of feeling that would have to be adjusted, but adjustments would come without friction and with justice to all. In patience, in tolerance, in understanding, peace and friendliness would prevail.

But the place to work this out is in the South. Mitchell realizes that fact and is returning to the South, although he knows that in some respects life for a Negro is easier in the North. Social problems cannot be worked out in a laboratory. They do not resolve themselves in a vacuum. Their questions are not answered in a book or the quiet confines of a library. Nor are their answers written, finally, in the discussion of legislative bodies or governmental councils.

The final solution of social problems can come only where men and women are living. They can be worked out only on the spot. No theories discussed in Congress, no matter how helpful they may be in many ways, can smooth the racial difficulties of the South. Progress will come out of the living of men and women of both races, here in the South.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

A CONGRESSMAN RETIRES

WE HAVE a healthy respect for the quiet dignity, the statesmanlike bearing and oratory and the innate wisdom which characterized Chicago's Arthur Mitchell, who made his parting speech before the Congress of the United States a few days ago on the eve of his resignation. We think he was a worthy Congressman and a creditable representative of his people.

JAN 9 - 1943

During the Congressional career of Mr. Mitchell we have found occasion to praise and occasion to blame. There were many times we felt he demonstrated a lack of the fury and fire, the dauntless vigor and courage of his great predecessor, Oscar DePriest. There were times when we felt Arthur Mitchell had let us down because he did not rise to his feet to defend his race from the calumny and the rotten demagoguery of the poll-tax legislators who have villified the sacred halls of our highest law-making peoples' body.

To these criticisms we still adhere. We still insist Arthur Mitchell might have been a greater man of his race even though he might have become a less popular man with his party.

JAN 9 - 1943

But to give honor where it is due, we would be indeed lacking in gratitude and appreciation if we did not commend Mr. Mitchell for his not inconsiderable record in the halls of the Congress of the United States. We feel especially indebted to him for the vigorous campaign he waged against railroads which jim-crow and discriminate against our people. His victory over this vicious form of practice was a long step in our fight in America to demonstrate how prejudice and bias is weakening the fabric of our national democracy.

Congressman Mitchell intends to return to his native state of Virginia to spend the balance of his days. By and large, we can say that as he toils and supervises on his Dinwiddie County, Va., farm he can recall with gratification and pleasure that he has in a large share contributed to the progress of our people and therefore to the moral and spiritual growth of our country.

Dawson Gets 1st Rebuff In Congress

Chicago Ill.
Defender

NEW YORK CITY. — Congressman William Dawson of Chicago, sole Negro Representative, has been barred from membership on the Congress Committee on Post Office and Post Roads, according to a statement in the Sunday Mirror column of Drew Pearson, syndicated writer who does Washington news under the caption, "Washington Merry-Go-Round."

Ruling out Jim Crow as a factor, Pearson points out that Arthur Mitchell, Dawson's predecessor, had been successful in election to the committee, and states:

"The Kelly-Nash machine elected Dawson and asked that he replace Mitchell on the committee. There were six vacancies and eight candidates. Dawson ran eighth, so did not qualify.

"But his friends asked that Dawson's name be re-submitted, and Rep. Dingell, Mich., took it up with Rep. Thomas G. Burch, Va., chairman of the committee. Burch said one Congressman from Illinois, Noah Mason, Republican, was already on the committee.

"Meanwhile, a Negro lobbyist, Edgar Brown, for the United Government Employees union, contacted Chairman Burch and other members. They say he demanded Dawson go on the committee, hinting election reprisal.

"Several members threatened to resign if Dawson were appointed and as a compromise he was shunted to the Insular Affairs committee, headed by Joe L. Smoth of W. Va."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Dawson Opposes Anti-Strike Bill

WASHINGTON

The votes of Representative William L. Dawson (Dem., Ill.) on important roll-calls in the House during the period from May 29 to June 4 were as follows:

On adoption of the rule calling for immediate consideration of the Smith-Connally strike and labor-control bill, adopted, 240 to 165 — Nay.

On the question of passage of the modified Smith-Connally strike and labor control bill, passed, 231 to 141 — Nay.

On the adoption of the conference report on the compromise pay-as-you-go tax bill, adopted, 256 to 114 — Nay.

Con. Dawson Fails Colored People

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

The saddest commentary in this whole tragic picture of the colored American's fight in Washington on two fronts for liberty, justice and equality has been the shameful dereliction of the only Colored member of Congress in the United States, Hon. William L. Dawson, who has lain supinely by for six months after being honored by his own people and elected to stand up and battle for their constitutional rights against the tirades and slanderous attacks upon colored people by the Rankins, Bilbos and Connallys in Washington.

Congressman Dawson has failed his race and nation by his silence.

JUL 24 1943

Call Him Sphinx



Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Congressman William L. Dawson, the only Negro member of the United States in the house of Representatives was asked by the National Negro Council this week to demand a congressional investigation of the acquittal of Col. William T. Colman for the shooting of Pvt. William McRae at Selfridge Field, Michigan. Edgar G. Brown, council head, said that Dawson emulates the Sphinx during the sessions while 13,000,000 Negroes are clammering for action. (Press Photo Service.)

JUN 12 1943

Cong. Dawson to Serve All While in Congress

MAR 19 1943

THE CALL

MAR 19 1943

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Congressman William L. Dawson, Chicago Democrat, declared that the problems of Negroes throughout the country are identical with those of his constituents back home, and that every successful effort to find a solution for the people of his district will indeed be a help to other Negroes.

He spoke last Tuesday night at the Banneker Junior high school auditorium before a strictly local and modest audience that had been collected by the Howard Park Civic association.

MAR 19 194

In forthright language the congressman made it clear that he is not looking through rose-colored glasses in his relations with his colleagues of the house.

"The fact is," he said, "that I don't give a rip about them and I know that they don't give a rip about me. But in coming here it is my hope to be of some service in solving some of the problems in the United States."

MAR 19 194

Mr. Dawson did not attempt to turn his attention from the plight of the Negro in the South and elsewhere. He recognized thah there is much injustice, "having come from Georgia," as he reminded his listeners. But he saw no good to be achieved in a constant harangue of the "ills of which we all know." He deplored lynching but maintained "that there is going to be some more dying in the South" before anything like democracy is fully realized.

"If a Negro has got to die in the South in order to arouse sentiment," he declared, "I say that that Negro lynched has not died in vain either for his race or for America. I would as soon see a Negro die in Georgia as I would see him die in Africa or anywhere else.

MAR 19 1943

"Nobody is going to give you anything if it is worth having," he insisted. "They want it for themselves. You will therefore have to go out and take it, not by physical force necessarily, but by the means and methods available in a free country.

MAR 20 1943

He closed his address with the advice that through the use of intelligence "instead of hate," we will make the constitution of the United States not a mockery but a living reality.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Dawson In Big Push To Ban Poll Tax

MAR 20 1943

The all-out fight to abolish the poll tax in this session of Congress is on, Rep. William L. Dawson of Chicago told The Defender this week in his office here.

With a coalition committee of seven members of all parties organized to steer the measure through the House, total mobilization of all anti-poll tax forces is certain to bring victory in the long battle to ban the levy of voting in seven Dixie states.

MAR 20 1943

Dawson, back in Chicago to help get William Harvey's second ward aldermanic campaign under way, is a leading member of the House coalition committee.

Others are Reps. Vito Marcantonio, ALP, N. Y.; Joseph Gavagan, Dem., N. Y.; Warren G. Magnuson, Dem., Wash.; Thomas E. Scanlon, Dem., Pa.; Joseph Clark Baldwin, R., N. Y., and George E. Bender, R., O.

MAR 20 1943

No Party Lines

"Formation of this committee which is non-partisan, will go a long way in convincing other members of Congress that the poll tax fight cuts across party lines," Dawson said.

"Both Republicans and Democrats are on it. They have combined to defeat this vicious evil because it is un-American and violates the course with her tw , and he, very principles upo which our country is founded. I ave pledged to do all in my power to help see that poll tax legislation is passed in this session of Congress."

Upon the signing of the discharge petitions of both the poll tax and anti-lynch bills by Dawson all the other Illinois Democratic members did likewise. While Republicans from other states have signed, none of the 19 members from Illinois have yet put their signatures upon the petitions which will bring these measures from committee. A total of more than 50 have signed the petition which needs 218 signatures.

Sums Up Work

Dawson pointed out that he had lost no time in putting forward the Negro's case since his induction in January.

MAR 20 1943

"Very little is accomplished on the floor of the House itself, you know, although if the occasion arises I will carry the fight there. I could spend all my time trying to make flowery speeches that would fall on deaf ears. Instead I have visited the other representatives in their offices and discussed our problems. In a number of cases I have found them sympathetic and have secured their promise to vote favorably on legislation which affects us."

MAR 20 1943

When the Congressman was asked how he would evaluate his term of office to date, he answered, "I don't expect to make any smashing spectacular personal success. Things aren't operated that way down in Washington. I believe that my function is to make friends among the legislators for the Negro people. And if at the end of my term, my efforts have helped in advancing our present position, then I will consider I have been successful."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

DAWSON SEES ROLE AS AIDING ALL NEGROES

Race Problems Elsewhere Identical To Chicago's, Congressman Says

MAR 20 1943

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MAR 20 194

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MAR 20 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Dawson Backs Pickens In 1st House Address

FEB 20 1943

Calls Action Against Treasury Worker Unjustified

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Making his maiden speech in the House of Representatives, Congressman William L. Dawson, Democrat, of Illinois, defended William Pickens last week against a charge that he is disqualified for employment by the Treasury Department because of Communist affiliations.

FEB 20 1943

In his speech, which was followed by applause from members of the House, Mr. Dawson declared that Mr. Pickens "is not and never has been a communist." At the close of his speech, the first representative to shake his hand and congratulate him was Congressman Hatton W. Sumners, of Texas, chairman of the House judiciary committee. Mr. Dawson explained that he had known Mr. Pickens for forty years and of his activities among "my people."



DAWSON

FEB 20 1943

DAWSON'S PLEA

He asked the House to understand the "psychology of an underprivileged people," and suggested that colored people might join organizations pleading for "freedom and democracy" without knowing that they were communistic.

FEB 20 1943

A roll call vote on the amendment tentatively adopted last Friday, which would prohibit payment of Mr. Pickens' salary from Treasury appropriations, was scheduled for Tuesday.

The amendment, offered by Representative Joe Hendricks, Democrat, of Florida, was approved by a teller vote of 163 to 111, Friday.

FEB 20 1943

DIES IS HEARD

Joining the debate last Monday, Representative Martin Dies, Democrat, of Texas, and chairman of the committee responsible for the action against Mr. Pickens repeated his assertions that the Treasury worker was radical and insisted that the House was entitled to act on "evidence at hand," without necessity of a "conviction."

FEB 20 1943

OTHERS OPPOSED

Monday was the second day of debate on the proposal to refuse use of Treasury funds to pay the salary of Mr. Pickens.

Others who joined in opposing the action against Mr. Pickens include: Representatives Frank B. Keefe, Republican, of Wisconsin; Malcolm C. Tarver, Democrat, of Georgia, who called the tentative action "legislative lynching"; and Francis Case, Republican, of South Dakota.

52c-1943
The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

White To Take Oath Of Office As County Commissioner Monday

JAN 8 - 1943

Fred White, county commissioner-elect of the second district will be given the oath of office next Monday at the Wyandotte County Court House, when the Republicans will practically take over the entire reigns. Mr. White will be the first Negro is the history of the state of Kansas to ever hold the office of County Commissioner. His taking office will give control of the county board to the Republican party. The Democrats have been in control since 193[illegible]

JAN 8 - 1943

Mr. White has served as a city fireman since 1912 and has been a captain at number 5 station. This week a request for retirement and pension was made by Mr. White. The legal department is expected to take immediate action.

Along with Mr. White's entrance in the Court House next Monday will go a number of appointments dished out by Republicans defeating Democrats in last November's election. Also several new appointments are predicted to come about through Comissioner-elect White to the Negroes of the districts.

A large delegation of Negroes are expected to witness the ceremony Monday at the Court House and see the first Negro given the oath of office as County Commissioner, as well as many of the white Republicans of the district who supported Mr. White and who are jubilant over a party victory.

Shellie McClendon To Post As City Welfare Officer

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.
AUG 6 1943

AUG 6 1943

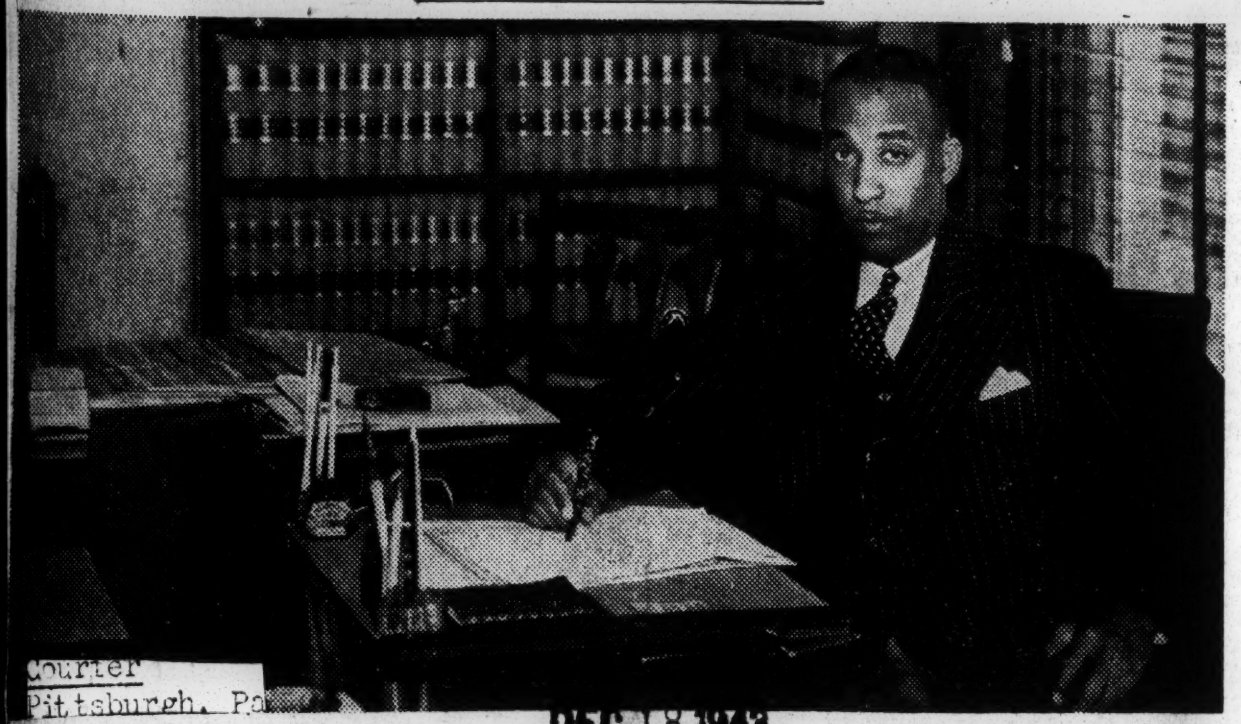
Shellie McClendon, civic and political worker for many years was named Welfare Officer, Tuesday by the City Commissioners. His apointment was made by Mayor Don C. McCombs upon the recommendations of leaders in his race. McClendon succeeds the late Preston Younger, patrolman who once worked in the Welfare Department some years ago before his death.

The Welfare Department has been made a separate unit from the police department and Mr. Clendon's duties will come within that department. He is the second Negro to ever hold that position. The position was created many years by the City Commissioners for retired police officers, but under the new setup of the department makes the position available for the Mayor to appoint a civilian.

McClendon is active in religious civic and political circles. He is a former committeeman in the 19th precinct, President of the State-Wide G. O. P. organization, member of the Masonic lodge, Treasurer of the National Association for the Advancementof Colored People and an officer in the Walnut Blvd., Baptist Church. He is married and lives at 1960 North Hallock.

Anderson Begins Ninth Year In Kentucky Legislature

DEC 18 1943



Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

DEC 18 1943

The first Negro to take the oath of office as a member of the Kentucky Legislature, Charles W. Anderson, Jr., young Louisville attorney, begins his ninth year as a legislator next month, following his successful candidacy from the 42nd Legislative district on the Republican ticket, November 2. Anderson was elected president of the National Bar association last month in Baltimore, Md.

DEC 18 1943

As the South's first colored legislator since the Reconstruction era, Attorney Anderson, only a month after he first was sworn into office January 7, 1936, sponsored a bill known as the Anderson-Mayer State Aid which now provides that the State of Kentucky appropriate $17,500 as a fund to help colored boys and girls pursue courses in higher education not afforded within the state. The next year, he sponsored a bill providing high school education for Negro boys and girls denied such in rural counties, requiring each county to provide $100 per student for tuition or transportation wherever there are counties where high school facilities are available. He later successfully sponsored a bill permitting public school teachers of Kentucky to marry after they have had five years teaching experience.

DEC 18 1943

BUSY CAREER

Attorney Anderson also successfully championed the repeal of Kentucky's 18-year-old Public Hanging Law, fought for the passage of a law to prohibit discrimination against Negro working men and women on public projects, introduced the first bill in the Kentucky legislature proposing minimum wages and hours for domestic servants, supported a bill for $30 a month Old Age pensions, fought and defeated a bill to make Negroes ride behind a glass partition on public buses and one which sought to create a public whipping post in misdemeanor cases, was victorious in a fight for improved train service for the Negro traveling public, and he successfully led the fight which ended discrimination by the Yellow Cab company against Negroes at railway and bus stations in Louisville. The brilliant young legislator has been an important factor in many other successful social reforms.

OCT 1943

STAUNCH REPUBLICAN

Attorney Anderson ranks high in Republicanism, national and state bar associations, the NAACP, and other potent organizations. He is a staunch churchman, a graduate Wilberforce university and the Howard University School of Law, and is a practicing attorney with law offices at 602 West Walnut street in Louisville. For his outstanding work in 1938-'39, he was awarded the Lincoln institute key by the Kentucky Negro Educational association.

DEC 18 1943

Now starting his fifth legislative term, the young lawmaker was previously elected four times from the old 58th District (now abolished) in Louisville.

OCT 1943

Chas. W. Anderson Runs Again.

WE are informed by the Charles W. Anderson, Jr., headquarters in Louisville that the young legislator will run again for membership in the Kentucky Legislature. He has previously served four consecutive two-term tenures with high distinction.

Two years ago the Chicago City-Wide Forum and the Kentucky State club of Chicago publicly honored this young legislator for his achievements in the legislature, notably for his abolition of intrastate railway discrimination, and the provision of funds for Negro students to study elsewhere when denied admission in the state schools of Kentucky.

These are uncommon achievements in a border state more affiliated with southern influence than with northern. The refreshing exception being the city of Louisville with its progressive citizenry and press mouth piece, the Louisville Courier-Journal, once edited by one of America's greatest liberals, Herbert Agar.

Charles Anderson is a remarkably clean cut politician. He is idealistic in his political methods, so much so that many citizens have openly expressed this as the cause of their support. Anderson is young with a sparkle in his eyes that denotes keeness and eager determination to make Kentucky a decent place in which Negroes may live.

Since Reconstruction, Anderson is the first Negro member the legislature in Kentucky or the entire South. He is a real statesman—well trained and well aware of local, national and international questions, especially regarding those related to men of color.

Since most of our people for the present at least are going to remain in the South, it is well that Representative Anderson affords a sparking to their waning hope of "sticking it out' and molding events, even under great handicap, to their collective betterment.

OCT 1943

KENTUCKY LAWYER RE-ELECTED TO LEGISLATURE

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Charles W. Anderson Jr., local lawyer and incumbent Republican member of the Kentucky legislature, was re-elected for a fifth term by the voters of the newly created forty-second legislative district of Louisville, defeating his Democratic opponent, Rev. W. Augustus Jones, Negro, pastor of the Fifth Street Baptist church.

NOV 3 1943

Anderson was first elected to office on the Republican ticket in 1935.

NOV Chicago, Ill.

Inkster Councilman, Collins Reynolds Address NAACP

St. Louis, Mo. Argus

DEC 28 1943

DETROIT, Mich. — The political strength of Negroes in Inkster is responsible for the move by white residents to form the city of Westwood, Inkster Councilman, Louis J. Demby, declared in a speech to the members of the NAACP, Sunday, November 28, at St. John CME Church. Collins Reynolds, school teacher who is being sued by the Courville District Improvement Association, also addressed the Association.

DEC 28 1943

Demby traced the political growth of the Negro leadership in the Village of Inkster. Incorporated in 1927, Inkster has a population of 4,500, approximately 45 per cent of which are colored. With two councilmen to safeguard the rights of Negro voters, Inkster has had Negro city employees in the police department, the fire department, the city administration offices and the Board of Education.

Demby stressed the assistance given the Negro fight by white liberals and declared that many of the white people were friendly to the Negroes. Dissolution of the present village of Inkster will leave the Negro residue with $560,000 owing on the Water System, $97,000 on the water department, $110,000 for the installation of sewers. The Inkster Councilman paid tribute to the legal assistance rendered by Attorney Lloyd Loomis and Edward N. Bernard; complimented Councilman George Edwards.

Michigan Senator Denies Soliciting $6,000 Bribe

Defender Chicago, Ill.

OCT 9 1943

DETROIT, Mich. — State Sen. Charles C. Diggs, lone Negro member of the Michigan Assembly, issued a flat denial of charges he solicited a bribe in exchange for his vote on an impending bill before the Michigan Legislature early this year when he was arraigned in recorder's court last week.

Diggs was named as a party to solicitation of a $6,000 bribe during the 1943 session. Charged with him is Charles S. Blondy, white, who is now serving a 60-day jail term for contempt of court in connection with testimony given the legislative bribery grand jury two weeks ago.

The warrants were issued following additional testimony by Adrian A. McGonagle, controller of the Detroit bank, who further confirmed his testimony of last Friday when he said that Diggs called him to his office where he was asked for a "campaign contribution" in return for three votes for the Anti-Branch Chain Bank bill.

Herbert J. Rushton, attorney general, said previously McGonagle had refused to sign warrants for arrest of the two legislators.

The banker changed later, however, and testified that Blondy, meeting him in Diggs' office in Detroit, had guaranteed to deliver three votes for a bill to limit branch banking on payment of $6,000, had declined to sign warrants for the senator as complaining witness.

OCT 9 1943

When Rushton sought issuance of a warrant for Blondy and Diggs, William C. Dowling, Wayne county (Detroit) prosecutor, declined to give its approval without "an independent investigation."

MISSISSIPPI

52c-1943
Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Urges Soldiers To Boom Howard For President

JAN 21 1943

Negro Candidate Also Needed To Defeat Bilbo

JAN 21 1943

CHICAGO.—(ANP)—A militant propagandizing of "the 100,000 eligible colored soldier voters of Mississippi in 1944 to nominate Perry W. Howard, only Negro member of the Republican National committee for the past 24 years, as the 'favorite son' candidate of Mississippi for President of the United States" was on of the resolutions passed Sunday at the annual mass meeting of the Elgar Brown-dominated Chicago Citizens Committee of 1,000, held at Metropolitan Community church.

The resolution also urged the soldiers to cast their ballots for a colored candidate for senator against Bilbo and other Negroes opposed to the reelection of Rep. John E. Rankin.

The committee also went on record as fully endorsing Edgar Brown's National Negro council and its $100,000 campaign to establish a lobby in Washington, as well as the council's campaign for congressional legislation against a fourth term for Roosevelt and one six year term for all future Presidents.

JAN 21 1943

Taking up the matter of the postponed FEPC railroad hearings, the committee called upon Rep. William L. Dawson of Chicago, to demand of Paul McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower commission, that he stop "sabotaging the constitutional rights of Negro workers, by first rescinding the recent order denying to the U. S. Employment service sole placement authority for workers in war industries. Also, recall the order stopping the investigation by the FEPC into the discrimination against Negro workers in the railroad industry and bus lines by the unions.

JAN 21 1943

"We urge Congressman Dawson to immediately introduce legislation making FEPC a permanent and independent agency of the federal government by act of congress, and to oppose all further appropriations to the War Manpower commission, as long as congress does not institute impeachment proceedings against such administratory, in their failure to protect all American citizens in their constitutional rights, regardless of race, creed or color, as specifically guaranteed by the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments of the constitution."

JAN 21 1943 Courier

Beyond Their Understanding

To the saying of The News and Courier that a Hampton or a Lamar could not swallow convictions, as Mr. O. D. Johnston swallowed them when he approved an anti-prohibition act, The Walterboro Press and Standard, an office-holder's newspaper, replies that "it cannot believe that a Lamar would thus betray them when he had asked them to decide a question of any kind. They were honorable men and true Democrats." (Had Mr. Johnston "asked his people" to decide the prohibition question?)

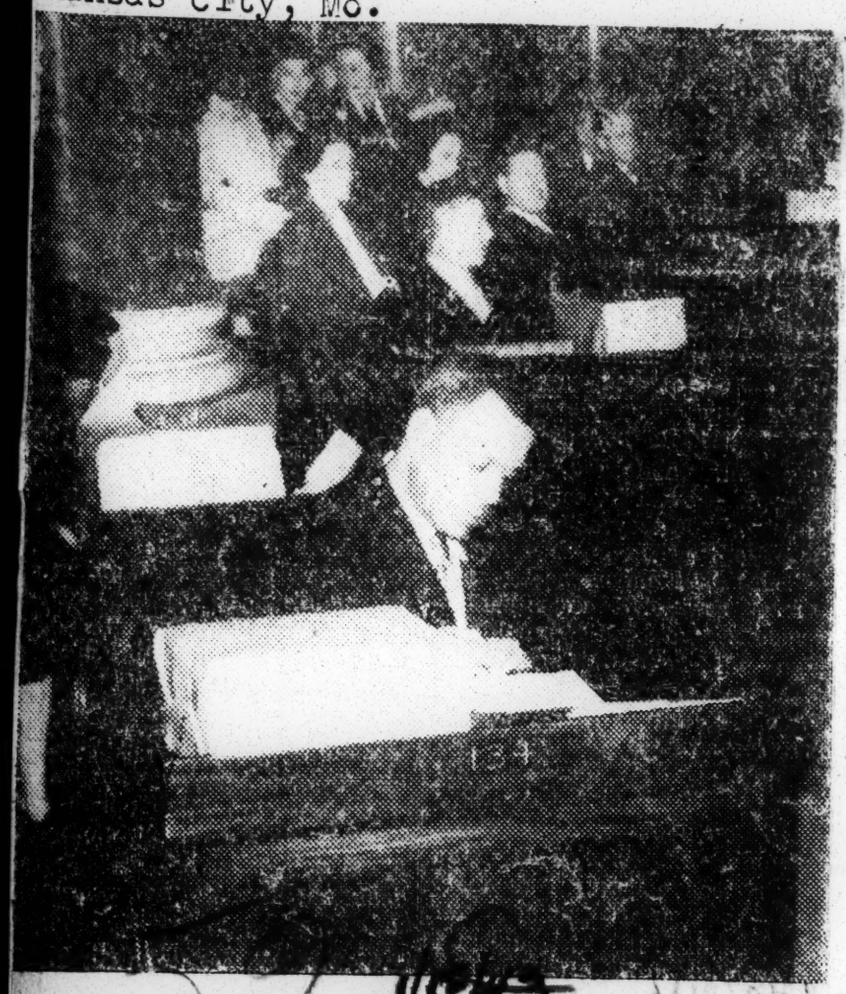
A "silver bill" was before congress. Mr. Lamar, a senator, was opposed to it. Both houses of the legislature of Mississippi called on Lamar to support the silver bill, one of them "instructing" him to vote for it. The legislature had elected him to the senate. One house commended Blanche K. Bruce, negro and Republican, still in office, for his support of the bill.

When the test vote came Senator Lamar had the Mississippi resolutions read by the clerk and then explained his vote saying that, while he was grateful to the legislature of his state for the honors conferred upon him, "he had taught wave after wave of young men in the University of Mississipi first of all that they should be true to their convictions," honest with themselves, that "he would have to face those men when he returned to Mississippi," that he would vote against the silver bill.

As for Wade Hampton, he went down in defeat because he stood four-square against the overwhelming demands of the people back home, "free silver at sixteen to one" among them, and never did he make concession to popular clamor against his convictions.

The kind of politicians now in control not only do not practice the ways of Hampton and Lamar but are incapable of understanding them. They say that refusal to betray their own consciences is betrayal of the people.

52c-1943
Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.



MISSOURI LEGISLATOR AT WORK.— Atty. Edwin Kenswil of St. St. Louis, the only Negro member of the Missouri legislature, is shown at work here at his desk in the house chamber. Atty. Kenswil is the first Negro to serve in Missouri's legislature since 1939 when L. Amasa Knox was a member. One of Representatives Kenswil's first actions in the House was to speak favoring a resolution adopted in praise of Dr. George Washington Carver (Details on Page 4). Soon, Rep. Kenswil will introduce in the House a Civil Rights bill sponsored by the Missouri State Conference of N.A.A.C.P. Branches.

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

IN THE LAWMAKING BODIES

As we think of January 4, 1943, we cannot but think of two Negroes who will take their seats along with their colleagues in two different lawmaking bodies in this country.

First, and close to us is Edwin F. Kenswil, who will be a member of the 62nd Missouri General Assembly. The peculiar significance attached to his election is the fact that he is the first of his race to be so honored as a Democrat. Others of his race who have held seats in the State Legislature have been of the Republican faith.

JAN 1 - 1943

Events in human affairs have made Kenswil's election more unique than any of his brethren who have tread the path before him, in the same role. The House of Representatives is more evenly divided between the Democrats and the Republicans than it has been in many years. In fact we doubt whether there ever was a time in the history of the state when the equinox in that body was so close. Then, too, no less important is the fact that the Democrats have a large majority

Another thought on this subject is the fact that back in 1921 when the first Negro was elected to the Missouri Legislature we didn't dream that the time would ever come when a Negro Democrat would sit as a member of the body. We mention this because it shows that we are living in a changing world and the old timers who can see no advancement for the race through the Democratic party are out of step with the times in which we are living.

JAN 1 - 1943

No less important is the fact that William L. Dawson, a Negro Democrat of Chicago, will be sworn in as a member of the 78th Congress of the United States on January 4, 1943. He too, will be the only one of his race who will be a member of the highest lawmaking body of the land. He also found his way to Congress through the Democratic party in the state of Illinois.

Mr. Dawson, will of course, have the honor and the high privilege of serving the nation during the greatest war the world has ever seen. He will sit in judgment on such important matters as war and peace.

The new congressman had the support of his predecessor, Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell, who retired and therefore, is presumed to be a supporter of the New Deal policies under the leadership of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Both of these elections are indicative of racial progress.

52c-1943

Nebraska

Negro Named U. S. Court Bailiff

APR 23 1943

APR 23 1943

OMAHA—Julie Jaco was appointed bailiff for the U. S. Federal District court, Nebraska district. He is the first Negro to hold this position in federal court.

Jaco, who lives at 2856 Binney St., came to Omaha about 10 years ago and since coming here has held some outstanding positions. For the last three years, he has been employed by the Security Acceptance corporation.

APR 29 1943

52c-1943

New Jersey

NEGRO APPOINTED TO DEFENSE GROUP

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

Mayor Chooses John Dabney to Succeed "Casey" Jones on City Council!

Newark, N. J.—Mayor Murphy today announced the appointment of John M. Dabney of 239 Norfolk Street a Negro undertaker, to the Newark Defense Council. He succeeds Charles C. (Casey) Jones, who resigned.

Dabney is the first member of his race named to the council. Murphy said Negro groups in the city had requested him to give them representation. Appointment of Dabney is the second to the council in two days. Carl K. Withers, president of the Lincoln National Bank, was invited yesterday by Murphy to assume the chairmanship, subject to confirmation by the council. .

Dabney, who is single, was born in Richmond, Va., and has lived in Newark 15 years. He has been in business nine years. He is a member of Alpha Lodge 116, F. C A. M. Dabney attended Lincoln University in Pennsylvania and was graduated from the Renouard Training School of Embalming in New York.—Newark Evening News.

H. Bosshart, of 23 Collinwood road, Maplewood, New Jersey's new State commissioner of Education. Bosshart succeeds Dr. Charles H. Elliott of New Brunswick, whom he replaced as Education Commissioner.

Appointed Member Of N. J. War Records Commission

Age
New York, N. Y.

TRENTON, N. J.—The first Negro member of the New Jersey War Records Commission was named Sunday by Governor Charles Edison. He is Hilmar L. Jensen, of 36 West End avenue, Trenton.

Jensen, 46 years old, is executive secretary of the Community Branch of the Trenton YMCA. He is a graduate of the New Jersey State Teachers College at Trenton; secretary to the board of managers of the Mercer County Juvenile Shelter; member of the Housing Committee of the Trenton Civilian Defense Council, and is active in numerous other civic enterprises.

Also designated a member of the War Records Commission was John

52c-1943

NEW YORK

GOVERNOR DEWEY APPOINTS NEGRO CITY COURT JUDGE

Names Francis E. Rivers To Vacancy On Bench

Democrats On Spot

Governor Thomas E. Dewey on Monday appointed Francis Ellis Rivers, Assistant District Attorney of New York County, a Justice of the City Court of New York, the highest judicial seat yet to be held by a Negro in the state.

Mr. Rivers fills the vacancy caused by the death of Justice James C. Madigan, and will be sworn into office Friday and take his seat on the bench next Monday when the court opens at 52 Chambers street. Because an election will be held to fill the vacancy Mr. Rivers will run for that office in November on the Republican ticket, and regardless of the outcome, will serve in the $17,500 post until December 31, 1943 for the elected justice takes office on January 1, 1944.

The appointment of Mr. Rivers fell as a bombshell in the ranks of Tammany Hall on Monday, because it left them in the position of either continuing with present plans to nominate Collector of Interal Revenue Joseph Higgins and thereby alienating Negro voters, or of selecting a Negro Democrat for the place. Prominent Negro Democrats being mentioned as likely candidates, if their party should decide to name a Negro, are Municipal Court Justice Charles E. Toney, of the 21st Assembly District, Attorney Dan[illegible] Municipal Court Justice James S. Watson, of the 19th A.D., in the order named.

50 years old, and a native of Kansas City, Mr. Rivers spent his early youth in Washington, D. C., where his father was pastor of a fashionable Baptist Church. He was graduated as a member of Phi Beta Kappa with the Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale University in 1915 and after studying for one year at the Harvard Law School, entered officers' training school at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, from which he graduated. Receiving a commission as first lieutenant of infantry in October, 1917, he went overseas with the A.E.F. in World War I and commanded a machine gun unit

Once Judicial Candidate

At the close of the war, Mr. Rivers entered Columbia University Law School graduating in 1922. In 1929 he was elected Assemblyman from the 19th A.D., and the next year became Republican candidate for Justice of the Municipal Court, 10th District, but was defeated in a Democratic landslide. He returned to private practice and in 1932 headed the Negro division of the Republican National Committee in the presidential campaign. He headed the same division in 1936 and 1940.

Long associated with Governor Dewey, Mr. Rivers in 1938 was appointed by Mr. Dewey, then District Attorney, as the first Negro with the rank of a full assistant district attorney at a salary of $7,500. At the time of his appointment as a Justice, he was senior assistant district attorney at a salary of $10,000 a year, having been reappointed by District Attorney Frank S. Hogan on January 1, 1942.

Married, Mr. Rivers lives with his wife at 305 Con[illegible] Avenue. Some time ago, Mr. Rivers received na-



Justice FRANCIS E. RIVERS

tionwide publicity over refusal of the American Bar Association to admit him to membership, because of his race. The publicity caused that Association recently in Chicago at its meeting to amend its by-laws to admit Negroes, and Municipal Court Justice James S. Watson was admitted to membership while Mr. Rivers was still passed over.

Pays Tribute To Dewey

In the District Attorney's office at 155 Leonard street, Monday, Mr. Rivers was deluged with congratulations from friends and associates. Asked to comment on his selection, he said:

"The appointment is a unique honor for me. It is a great tribute to the courage of Governor Dewey that he has appointed a Negro to the City Court of New York. It is the highest appointment for any Negro in America."

Dewey Names First Negro To Boxing Board

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Publisher, Insurance Executive To Try To Effect Reforms

NEW YORK CITY — Following months of speculation and a campaign which dates back several years, a Negro was finally named to the important New York State Athletic Commission last week. The man is Dr. Clilian B. Powell, prominent Gotham physician and X-ray specialist, publisher and editor of the New York Amsterdam News, and president of the Victory Mutual Life Insurance Company.

The announcement of his appointment was made last Thursday by Governor Thomas E. Dewey, who had pledged himself to the appointment of a Negro to one of the posts on the three-man commission when he first entered office.

DOMINATE BOXING

The appointment came after a lengthy campaign, during which it was pointed out that Negroes dominated the prize fight business in New York and were entitled to representation on the policy making board, which principally concerns itself with boxing. The drawing power and ability of Negro fighters has been the main influence in the development of the sport in New York and in the country. New York follows Pennsylvania, Michigan, California and Ohio, which had previously named Negroes to the state boxing commissions.

Left out in the final choice were several outstanding sports figures who had tried to get the post or who had been sponsored for the job by active groups and organizations. 4 among this group were: Frank Forbes, former Howard athletic luminary and sports official and promoter for years in New York; Bob Douglas, owner of the famed Renaissance basketball team; Pete White, promoter of the Salem Crescent fight club; Dan Burley, sports writer and now managing editor of the Amsterdam News; and Al Moses, veteran Gotham sports columnist.

SUCCEEDS BROWN

The drive to get a Negro appointed to the commission started during the administration of James J. Walker as mayor of Newmen and is not being stampeded by York. Not until Governor Deweyparty labels and slogans.
came along has the basic fact that Negroes had developed the great prize fight industry and should have a spot on the policy making commission recognized in high political circles.

Dr. Powell succeeds Dr. William J. Brown, aging former member of the commission who resigned when his term expired recently. He was the first Negro physician in New York to specialize in X-ray. He graduated from the medical school at Howard University and interned at New York's famous Bellevue Hospital. He is 49 years old.

When queried on his new post, the busy Harlem leader told reporters that he would have to wait until he was familiar with his duties and functions before he would be certain what reforms he would try to inaugurate. However, he made it clear that he would take an active interest in his position and would do all that he could to accomplish any reforms he felt necessary.

Dr. Powell declared: "All individuals with athletic ability can be sure of getting a break. I hope that my actions as a member of the athletic commission will serve as a recommendation to other government officials to appoint qualified members of our group to policy making bodies so that all citizens will be represented."

although there is no inherent guarantee that a colored man in office will always act to the best interests of his people. All things being equal, however, a colored man should be more sensitive to the needs and aspirations and handicaps of his race than the average white man who runs for office in a predominantly Negro area. And I suppose that until racial and color considerations are minimized this will be true.

But the strategy of Negro political leadership should be not to create and perpetuate the racial bloc, but rather to attain power and representation through alliances and coalitions with other groups which can benefit by the support of the Negro electorate a[illegible] Negro can benefit by their support.

This is the lesson in the election of Francis E. Rivers and I hope the election of Benjamin Davis an able, courageous, sincere champion of all the underprivileged, botn black asd white. The vote for Davis was gratifying (I have not analyzed it in the Negro cistricts). But from the reports it appears that the Negro electorate is achieving political acumen and is not being stampeded by



DR. C. B. POWELL

CONGRATULATIONS!

WE EXTEND congratulations this week four times in the appointment by Governor Thomas E. Dewey of Assistant District Attorney Francis E. Rivers as the first Negro to sit on the City Court bench in this city. Sworn in on Friday, Justice Rivers is now at work in his new capacity.

We congratulate Justice Rivers because the appointment means for him the realization of a long-cherished ambition to become a judge. The appointment, likewise, comes as the climax to a long and successful public career which started with World War I during which he served as a lieutenant in command of a machine gun unit in France. Returning to this country he took up his studies and became a lawyer. Through politics he first came to public notice when, as Republican candidate in the 19th Assembly District, he was elected for one term as a member of the Assembly. During his term in the Assembly he sponsored a bill creating new Municipal Court Districts and was rewarded the following year by being nominated as one of e candidates for the new places on the bench. He was defeated by a close margin turned to private practice. -- —
in a Tammany landslide and thereafter re-

In 1938, Mr. Rivers was appointed by the then District Attorney Dewey as the first Negro with the rank of full Assistant District Attorney and he was reappointed by District Attorney Hogan in 1942. During his service in the District Attorney's office, Mr. Rivers became the first Negro to prosecute first degree murder cases in the city and he acquitted himself with glory. His final triumph came when Gov. Dewey named him City Court Judge until December 31, 1943 as successor to the late Justice James C. Madigan. Nominated by the Republican party for the office, he will stand for election to the bench in November, but no matter what the outcome of the elction his life-long ambition has been realized.

We congratulate Governor Dewey for having made the appointment because, not only does the appointment come as a fitting reward to and recognition of an able lawyer, but also it marks another gain for the Negro because the race advances whenever any individual Negro goes up the ladder.

We congratulate the Republican party for nominating Justice Rivers to succeed himself in the November election because it shows that the GOP recognizes that the Negro race is ambitious, deserves recognition. Justice Rivers is the first Negro to be nominated by a major political party in this city for an office which must be voted for in an entire county—with the exception of City Councilman which office depends upon the vagaries of chance under proportional representation system of voting.

And finally. we congratulate the leader of Tammany Hall for showing to the city his abysmal ignorance of the aspirations of the Negro. At least a half-dozen district leaders had urged Tammany leader Michael Kennedy to nominate a Negro because the Republicans had already nominated a Negro as a candidate and the only political move for the Democrats was to name a Negro candidate likewise. So, Tammany boss, knowing that the county vote is normally Democratic, nominates a white candidate probably because he figures that the City Court bench at $17,500 a year is too big a position and too much salary for a Negro to have.

Not even the warning made by district leaders in the Harlem area that nomination of a white candidate would mean alienation of the Negro vote in the county as reprisal would cause Tammany boss Kennedy to select a Negro. Yes, we congratulate him on revealing himself in his true colors at the right time. Added to the scandal arising out of the nomination of Magistrate Aurelio for the Supreme Court bench allegedly with racketeer influence and support, this shows the utter disregard of the present leadership of Tammany Hall for the wishes of the public, and especially of the Negro.

OUR NEW COUNCILMAN

New York Age

OUT OF the proportional representation system of election, under which New York City elects its City Council emerged a new figure to be reckoned with in the body politic. He is the newly elected City Councilman, Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., who ran on the Communist ticket, but who actually became the Negro candidate around whom Negroes rallied.

New York, N. Y.

Wiseacres said that in an off-year election such as this, when fewer voters go to the polls and where less interest is shown than at any other election, that it would not be possible to elect a Negro candidate to the City Council this year. They pointed out that two years ago when the Rev. Adam C. Powell, Jr., ran he was opposed by only one other Negro candidate, Herman C. Stoute, Democrat, and there was widespread interest in the election. They said that Rev. Powell was just lucky to be one of six Councilman elected on the quota. With all of Rev. Powell's popular appeal at the polls and to the electorate, these same wise boys just could not see how any Negro could be lected especially in view of the fact that Manhattan's representation would be cut down from six to four.

Last Tuesday, when the counting of the ballots was completed, the result answered all the wise boys. What they did not realize was that Negroes no longer look at a man's party label as the sole standard by which to judge him. What they did not realize was that the Negro is becoming more and more conscious of his strength at the polls and votes for the man and not for his party. What they did not realize was that Negroes were determined that they would not lose their representation in the Council and they united behind the man whom they considered had the best opportunity to win.

The election also proved that voters in New York generally are becoming more liberal and that they will vote for their party candidates, as witness the more than 23,000 votes that John A. Ross, Jr., Republican candidate for City Council, received. Most of the votes for Mr. Ross came from outside of Harlem and came from strict party voters. Miss Layle Lane, the Socialist candidate, received some 2,884 votes and most of these likewise came from party voters outside of Harlem.

When Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., takes office as Councilman on January 1, 1944, he assumes a responsibility far greater than any other Negro legislator, because his will be the task of judging and voting on legislation which will be presented at a time when a world at war eagerly looks forward to the day when peace shall once more have returned. Legislation designed for a post-war world will be the order of the day and much of the city's legislative activities will center around that.

When Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., takes office on January 1, 1944 as City Councilman, he becomes by the very nature of things our Councilman, regardless of his or our political

In capping Mr. Johnson's career in the internal revenue service by naming him Collector of the Third District, the necessary it one intends to President selected a citizen who is indeed an expert in his field. Johnson's success in the The Amsterdam News pointed out a fortnight ago that Mr. internal revenue office would probably be appointed to his new position, is a first hand example of Johnson now congratulates the President and his this newspaper appointee. Because of Mr. Johnson's outstanding qualifications for the Collectorship, no one can say that his selection was a bid by the President to win the support of New York's Negro voters for himself or any other Democratic Presidential candidate next year.

Meantime, it should be stated here and now that the appointment in favor of anyone, regardless of race or religion, getting ahead in life is to be qualified when the opportunity knocks. Although qualified Negroes (and whites, often passed over by presidents and others in high places for political expediency and other reasons, nevertheless,

FDR'S Appointment of Jas. Johnson

President Roosevelt's appointment of James Johnson as Collector of Internal Revenue of the Third District, N. Y., is indeed a most commendable recognition of a worthy public servant. The first and only important appointment of a Negro by Mr. Roosevelt has made during his 10 years in the White House, it is anticipated that the Senate will quickly confirm Mr. Johnson.

Amsterdam News - New York, N. Y.

52c-1943
New York Age
New York, N. Y

NEW YORK

KEEP HIM ARTICULATE

JAN 9 1943

THOMAS E. DEWEY ascended the throne of power and took over the reigns of the administration of the affairs of New York State on Thursday. This newspaper vigorously supported Mr. Dewey's candidacy and applauded his election. We are certain that the former Manhattan racket-buster will apply the same forthright thought, word and action to his job as Citizen Number One of the State, as he did when he was merely Mr. District Attorney. We feel sure also that he will see fit to give a proportionate share of the patronage of the state administration to capable and qualified Negroes, first because they are capable and qualified, second because they are Negroes and our race ought to have as much of a chance to enjoy the good things of government as do members of other racial groups of our citizenry.

First and foremost, we hope that Mr. Dewey's new job will not find him forgetting his campaign promises or the policies which have become characteristic of him. We feel that the Governorship will find him still articulate on the problems of the day and ready to do something about them.

As Mr. Dewey stepped up, Charles A. Poletti stepped down. The one-time Lieutenant-Governor and for the past few weeks acting Governor of the State, due to the exigencies of politics, is now a private citizen. gencies of politics, became a private citizen, but almost immediately was called to Washington to become aide to the Secretary of War.

JAN 9 - 1943

This paper is by politics Independent Republican. But men and measures are far more important to a paper of integrity than party labels, so we hasten to say that we feel that Poletti did a pretty good job on Capitol Hill. He has never once dodged the issue where the rights of our race are concerned and has been responsible for some far-reaching actions which have served to better the condition of the Negro in the state. On another page in this paper will be found a condensed version of the twelve-month report of the Committee on Discrimination of the State War Council. That Committee has done a commendable job of making labor and industry realize the need for the integration of the Negro into the war effort and has been responsible for placing thousands of our men and women in unprecedented positions. Much of this success is owed to the sponsorship and vigilance of Charles Poletti. This is but one instance of his sterling service.

When a man or woman appears on the official scene who is willing to go to bat for Negroes, we think that Negroes ought to go to bat for that individual.

In his new position, Poletti has been placed where his useful efforts, his energy and vigor may be used to advantage. These are qualities which will do much to aid the war effort. But more important , Charles Poletti has a moral sense which guides him in the paths of fairness. He likes the kind of government which our forefathers sought.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

JAN 9 - 1943

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He is married and lives at 461 west 147th street. At the time of his appointment he was associate government appeals agent for the Selective Service, Local Board 61.

Appointment Rivers Causes Political War

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Nomination by ALP Raised Race Issue, Says Dean Alfange

MARCANTONIO HURLS REBUKE

Each Accused Other; Action Proves Issue Dead—Congressman

NEW YORK.—Congressman Vito Marcantonio, leader of the New York County American Labor Party, issued a stinging rebuke Monday to Dean Alfange, member of the Dubinsky-Rose-Counts faction of the ALP for Alfange's statement that the nomination of Francis E. Rivers by the party's New York County Committee had "raised the racial issue."

"Alfange has himself raised the racial issue," declared Marcantonio. He should know that precisely by nominating Mr. Rivers the New York County American Labor Party has thrown out the race issue.

"We have destroyed the fiction that a colored citizen cannot aspire to the same elective office as can persons of other races."

Action Based on Fitness

Continuing, the New York Congressman declared:

"My party nominated Mr. Rivers because he has demonstrated a fitness for office and because it believes that the colored voters of New York County are entitled to share in elective political offices on the same basis as any other group.

"Mr. Alfange, who could not even get himself elected to the New York County Convention of the ALP, by opposing the nomination of Justice Rivers has added N——o baiting to Red baiting, and this is not the first time the Dubinsky-Alfange-Rose-Counts clique has used such sordid tactics against colored people.

"Not many months ago, this same gang sought, but without success, to kill my anti-poll tax bill by writing members of Congress urging them to withdraw support from my bill.

"Treason? Make Most of It"

"Mr. Alfange and the Dubinsky faction, for whom he speaks, join hands with Bilbo of Mississippi and Martin Dies of Texas when they seek to defeat my anti-poll tax bill and when they announce their intention to seek the defeat of a highly competent and respected colored American, Justice Rivers, by claiming that the nomination accorded him by the party is raising the racial issue.

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Rivers Elected Court Justice In New York City

Friends See Judge Rivers Sworn In

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City, Item. e- Nov. 4, 1943

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Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

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52c-1943
New York Age
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"If it is treason for the American Labor Party to respond to the just aspirations of colored Americans to name from among their many competent and respected lawyers a candidate for city court justice, then David Dubinsky, Dean Alfange and the rest of the N——o-baiting clique will have to make the most of it."

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Court Justice Elected In New York City

NEW YORK.—Friends of both Judge Francis E. Rivers, Negro graduate of Yale and the Columbia Law School, who was elected city court justice in New York, but for only one year, and the highest judicial post in the state held by a member of his race and possibly the highest in the nation, are shown in the above photo as they gathered in the chambers of the court to witness the swearing in of Rivers by Chief Judge Johnson of the court. Rivers succeeds Joseph T. Higgins, Democrat, who was defeated by Rivers in the Nov. 3 election. (AP) —

NAME JOHNSON U. S. COLLECTOR IN NEW YORK

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Democratic Leader Gets Internal Revenue Post In Manhattan

NEW YORK.—James W. Johnson, assistant collector of internal revenue, was last week sworn in as acting collector of the third district, a position which was vacated by the resignation of Joseph T. Higgins white, who will become a candidate for city court justice.

Johnson, a well-known Democrat in the 21st Assembly district, will hold his duties a assistant collector of internal revenue until President Roosevelt names a successor.

Johnson's appointment is said to be the beginning of the end of a fight started back in 1932 when President Roosevelt was elected. Harlem Democrats have held fast to the idea that they are entitled to the position since it was "created for us" by the Republicans.

Army Veteran

Although Johnson's position as assistant collector of internal revenue is under civil service regulations, it is probable that he will relinquish his duties to accept the new post.

The district under Johnson's supervision embraces all territory in Manhattan north of 23rd street.

Johnson, born in Nashville, N. C., has lived in New York since 1911. He was graduated from the New York Law school and the Academy of Howard University, Washington, D. C., in 1917.

In World War I he entered the army as a private and when discharged, in 1919, was a sergeant with the 349th Field Artillery.

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution
September 22, 1943

NEGRO GETS POST.

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.—(AP)—James W. Johnson, 46-year-old Negro attorney, was sworn today as acting collector of internal revenue for the third New York district, which includes all of Manhattan above 23rd street.

Highest Judicial Post Held By Negro In U.S. Pays $17,500 Yearly

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

NEW YORK—(A N P)—Governor Thomas E. Dewey announced Monday the appointment of Assistant District Attorney Francis E. Rivers to fill a vacancy as city court judge of the county of New York. The vacancy was created by the death three weeks ago of Judge James C. Madigan. The position, the highest judicial post held by any Negro in America, pays a salary of $17,500 a year.

Coming as it does in the face of the recent act of the American Bar Association pigeon-holing Mr. Rivers' application for membership, the appointment by Governor Dewey is unique. In this new post Judge Rivers will try civil cases involving sums up to $3,000.

Because the regular term ends this year, Judge Rivers who will be sworn in Thursday, September 16, faces an election in November for the full term of ten years.

In the naming of Judge Rivers to the judgeship, Governor Dewey has put Tammany Hall on the spot, since that organization has not reached any decision on the question of putting a Negro on the ticket. The Rivers' appointment, which runs to December 31, makes it just about certain that the Democrats will have to nominate a Negro.

Born on July 30, 1893, Mr. Rivers was educated in the Washington, D. C. public schools and then attended Yale University, Howard law school and Columbia University. During World War 1 he served as a first lieutenant in the 367th infantry. From 1930-32 he was a state assemblyman.

The new judge holds the distinction of being the first Negro elected to the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. While a member of the state legislature he introduced and maneuvered through the passage of the Rivers Court bill which paved the way for the election of this city's first Negro judges, Watson and Toney, and also had enacted the Rivers Repair bill which improved living conditions in apartment houses.

Gadsden, Ala., Times
September 16, 1943

Dewey Appoints Negro Attorney To $17,500 Judgeship

NEW YORK, Sept. 6.—(AP)—The Republican executive committee of New York County last night unanimously nominated Francis E. Rivers, Negro, former Manhattan assistant district attorney, for justice of the city court.

Gov. Thomas E. Dewey on Monday announced the interim appointment of Rivers until Dec. 31 to fill a vacancy. The position pays $17,500 a year.

Rivers resigned as assistant district attorney yesterday. Democratic leaders were expected to nominate tonight an opposition candidate for the November election.

Rivers was the center of a widely publicized controversy last April when the American Bar Association failed to act upon his nomination for membership. General Sessions Judge Jonah J. Goldstein, who nominated Rivers, and Arthur Garfield Hays, director of the American Civil Liberties Union, resigned from the association in protest.

Negro Named to $17,500 Posts

Bystander
SEP 16 1943
Des Moines, Iowa

Albany, N. Y.—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey Monday appointed Francis Ellis Rivers, 50, a Negro, as a justice of the city court of New York. Rivers, a senior assistant district attorney of New York county, will fill the vacancy caused by the death of Justice Jafes C. Madigan.

The post, which pays $17,500 annually, will be filled at the November elections, with Rivers holding office until Dec. 31.

Rivers thus will hold the highest judicial office held by a member of his race in New York state. A few months ago Dewey appointed Dr. C. P. Powell, also a Negro, as a member of the state athletic commission.

Rivers was born in Kansas City and educated in Washington, receiving a bachelor of arts degree from Yale university in 1915. Subsequently he studied at Harvard law school.

Rivers is a member of both the New York County Lawyers association and the Association of the Bar of New York City. His application for membership in the American Bar association, recently rejected, caused a stir in law circles.

Collector Of Revenue



Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.
OCT 2 1943

NEW YORK—James W. Johnson, Attorney and veteran of the First World War, who was sworn in to the post of Acting Collector of Internal Revenue in the Third New York District. He is shown shaking hand with E. L. Swift, left, Supervisor in charge of collection in New York State.

N.Y. Attorney Sworn In As Revenue Collector

NEW YORK, N. Y.—James W. Johnson, 46, attorney and veteran of World War 1, was sworn in last Tuesday as acting Collector of Internal Revenue in the Third New York District to succeed Joseph T. Higgins, who resigned to make the race as Democratic candidate for City Court justice.

Mr. Johnson, chief office deputy collector of the district since April, 1939, heard his career praised by Higgins and E. L. Swift, supervisor in charge of collection in New York State, in ceremonies in the district offices at 110 east 45th street. Swift administered the oath of office.

Mr. Johnson was born in Ashville, N. C. and has lived in New York City since 1911. He was graduated from the New York Law School and the Academy of Howard University, Washington, in 1917. In World War 1 he entered the Army as a private and when discharged in 1919 was a sergeant with the 349th Field Artillery.

Mr. Johnson is a former national president of Phi Beta Sigma fraternity and a member of the Veterans Cross of the 15th Regiment, the Harlem Lawyers Club, the National Bar Association, Delta Sigma Kappa fraternity and the Reveille Club of New York.

Augusta, Ga., Herald
November 3, 1943

Negro Elected

To N.Y. City Court

election in November for a full term. The Democrats nominated Joseph T. Higgins, Internal Revenue Collector for the Third Dis-

SEP 18 1943

trict, a Negro, was sworn in as judge of City Court today.

Commenting on his appointment, Thomas E. Dewey appointed Rivers said: "It is the highest appointment for any Negro in a former assistant district attorney of New York of New York County, America."

SEP 18 1943

to the $17,500-a-year position for an ad interim term expiring December 31.

Rivers, a Republican, will seek

New York Justice

NEW YORK, Nov. 3.—(AP)— Francis E. Rivers, negro graduate of Yale and the Columbia Law School, was elected Tuesday city court justice, defeating six democratic opponents. Joseph T. Higgins, 166,858 votes.

A former assemblyman and as-

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Negro Appointed

Secretary Of State Swears In Highest Negro Judge In New York



Sworn in as Justice of the City Court Friday, Francis E. Rivers is here shown taking the oath of office administered by Secretary of State Thomas Curran in the presence of Paul Lockwood, Governor Dewey's assistant, and Mrs. Rivers. —News photo

FRANCIS E. RIVERS SWORN IN AS CITY COURT JUDGE

Amsterdam News

SEP 25 1943

Democrats Nominate White Candidate; Negro Voters Threaten Reprisals

New York, N. Y.

The chances of City Court Justice Francis E. Rivers being elected in November to the $17,500 a year post to which he was appointed by Governor Dewey until December 31, 1943, were increased Friday night when the executive committee of the New York County Committee of the American Labor Party made him their candidate. This nomination was made by the ALP added to the Republican nomination which had been earlier in the week, coupled with the fact that Tammany Hall refused to consider a Negro for the position, was seen as increasing Justice Rivers' chances, although the county vote is normally Democratic.

Mr. Rivers, appointed by Governor Dewey to fill the vacancy on the bench caused by the death on August 28 of Justice James C. Madigan, was sworn in as a City Court Justice by Secretary of State Thomas J. Curran in the State Office Building Friday morning and inducted on the bench before noon by Justice John A. Byrnes. A distinguished group attended the induction ceremonies and heard Justice Byrnes laud his new associate as "a credit to the community," citing his work in the District Attorney's office.

Justice Rivers will be opposed in the general election this November by Joseph T. Higgins, Collector of Internal Revenue for the Third District, who was namd by Tammany Hall unanimously, after Tammany boss, Michael J. Kennedy had refused to consider for the candidacy either of three Negroes who were advanced by Democratic leaders in Harlem. They were Municipal Court Justices Charles E. Toney and James S. Watson and Attorney Darwin Telesford.

Reprisals Threatened

With the Tammany leadership already in ill repute because of the scandal attached to its nomination of Magistrate Thomas A. Aurelio for Supreme Court Justice, and with Negroes angered because of Tammany's refusal to name a Negro as opponent to Justice Rivers, it is already predicted that in reprisal, the solid Negro vote will go for Judge Rivers.

Added to Negro resentment, is also the resentment of Italian voters and it was this resentment which caused the A.L.P. executive committee to announce that it would designate either a Negro or an Italian as its candidate. When Justice Rivers was nominated by the Republicans, the ALP committee followed suit.

There is deep resentment on two counts, among the rank and file Democratic workers over the failure of Tammany to designate a Negro. Even more important than the fact that the Republicans have designated a Negro—Justice Rivers—is the fact that Justice Madigan, whose death caused the vacancy which Rivers was named to fill, was credited as coming from the 21st Assembly District. The rule in politics has been that when an office-holder dies, the leader in that district designates his successor. Under those rules, Herbert L. Bruce, as Democratic leader of the 21st A.D., should have had the naming of the new judicial candidate.

It is no secret that Mr. Bruce recommended Municipal Court Judge Charles E. Toney as his candidate for the position. It is no secret, either, that two other Negroes, Municipal Court Judge James S. Watson and Darwin Telesford were also recommended, so that Tammany leader Michael J. Kennedy was not without qualified Negro candidates. When Kennedy gave the nomination to Collector of Internal Revenue Joseph T. Higgins, Negroes immediately threatened the Democratic ticket with reprisals at the polls in November. And to back up that threat, plans have already been made for an intensive drive for a big registration in Harlem to insure a big vote, despite the fact that this year's election is generally considered relatively unimportant and no effort is usually made in off-year elections to get out a big vote.

APPOINTED JUDGE



Judge Francis E. Rivers

Salary

Philadelphia, Pa.

SEP 18 1943

$17,500

Per Year

Philadelphia Tribune

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Assistant District Attorney Francis E. Rivers was appointed on Monday by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey to a vacancy in the City Court of New York County.

The judgeship pays $17,500, and is said to be the highest paid and highest ranking judicial berth to which a colored man has ever been appointed in New York or elsewhere in the United States.

While the term of office for which he was appointed expires December of this year, the New York County Republican Executive Committee has agreed to nominate him for the full 10-year term.

Long active in GOP circles, Judge Rivers was graduated from Yale University, Phi Beta Kappa, and from the Law school of Columbia University. He is a veteran of World War I. He has served in the New York State Assembly, is 50 and married.

Commenting on his appointment Judge Rivers said:

"The appointment is a unique honor for me. It is a great tribute to the courage of Gov. Dewey that he has appointed a Negro to the City Court of New York. It is the highest appointment for any Negro in America."

At City Hall, Mayor La Guardia, when informed of the appointment, said:

"That's nice."

NEW YORK.—Justice Francis Ellis Rivers, Republican and American Labor Party candidate for Manhattan city court this week became the highest paid Negro public official in America.

By his victory over his white Democratic opponent, Joseph T. Higgins, he won the highest judicial office to which a Negro has been elected since reconstruction. His

as City, Kans. He was graduated from Yale University, resigned as an assistant dis- attorney under District At-Kappa, and earned his degree of y Frank S. Hogan after Gov-Bachelor of Laws at the Columbia Thomas E. Dewey appointed University Law school. He served on Sept. 13 the ad interim suc- in the Assembly in 1930 and 1931.

r to City Court Justice James adigan, Democrat, who died on 28. Justice Rivers also had an assistant under Mr. Dewey.

tice Rivers was in Kan-

Justice Rivers has long been acessor to C. Madigan, recognized Negro leader. He served as an assistant district attorney under Mr. Dewey from 1932, 1936 and 1940. He resigned to run for the Assembly in 1938 and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and earned his degree of Bachelor of Laws at the Columbia University Law school. He served as an assistant district attorney under Thomas E. Dewey from 1932 to 1938 and was elected to the Assembly in 1938 and 1940.

Justice Rivers was appointed to the bench on Sept. 13 by Governor Dewey to fill the unexpired term of Justice James C. Madigan, who died on August 28. Justice Rivers also had been appointed an assistant district attorney under Mr. Dewey.

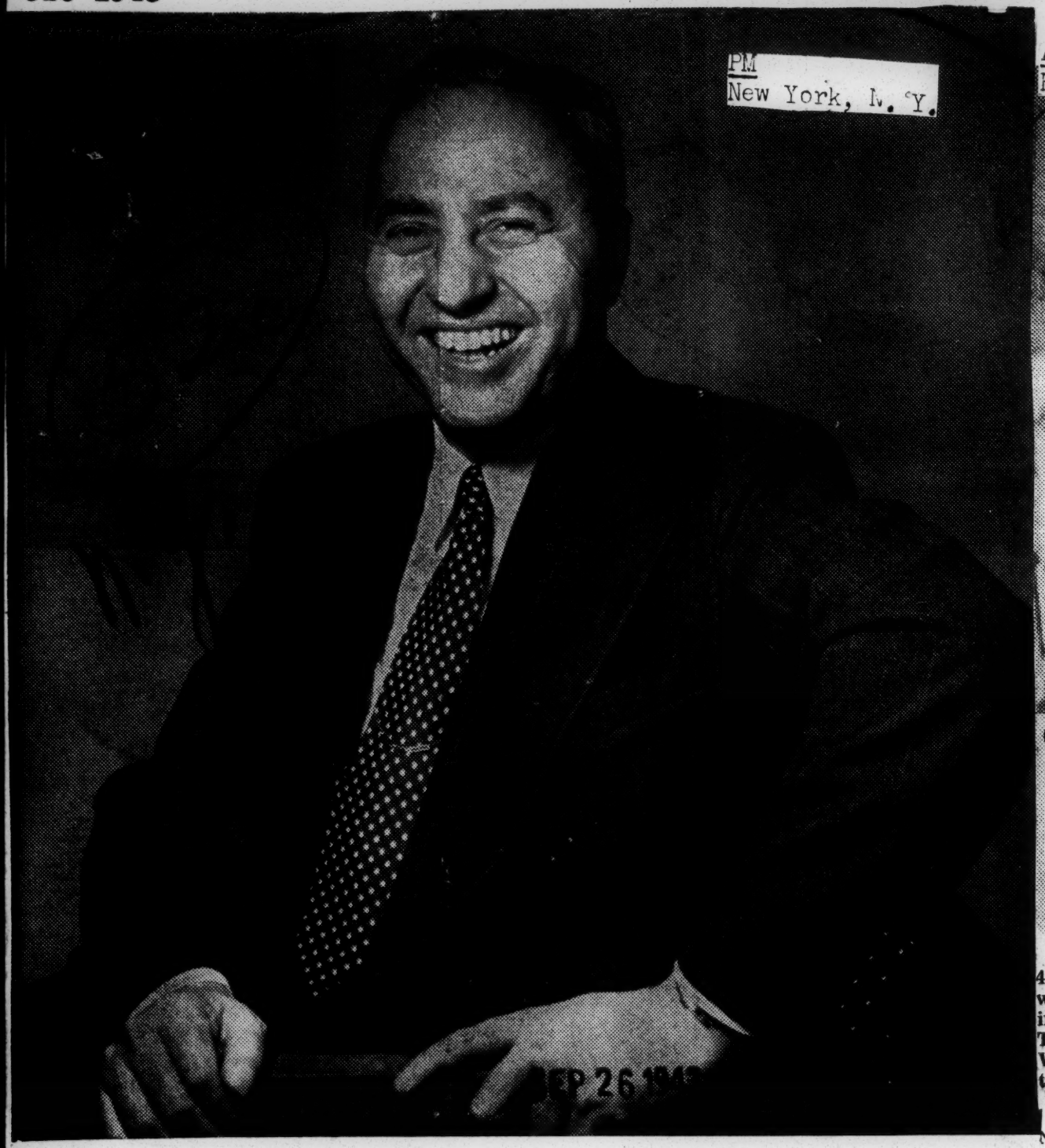
His margin of victory over Higgins stood at 105,406 votes to 61,425 on the Labor Party line. The complete count as released by the Board of Elections showed Rivers received 143,858.

Justice Rivers was "tremendously proud of the confidence of the voters of New York City that he has placed in me."

"It will be my constant endeavor," he said, "to be worthy of their trust."

Justice Rivers has been active in the Republican National Committee in the Presidential cam-

NEW YORK



PM
New York, N. Y.

SEP 26 1943

Justice Francis Rivers, new City Court justice (highest judicial office ever held by a Negro in New York) poses for Mary Morris, who reports he is a jolly, unpretentious person. Rivers, named to fill out a 14-year term caused by death, will seek election in November. Last week he won the GOP and ALP nominations; Tammany named Joseph T. Higgins.

SEP 26 1943

All-Party Aid Welcomed By Judge Rivers

New York, N. Y.

Daily Worker

Non-partisan campaign headquarters for Judge E. Rivers, Republican and American Labor Party candidate for City Court Justice in Manhattan were opened yesterday at 132 W. 43rd St.

In a brief address, the Negro leader expressed confidence in the outcome of the election due to the wide support he has been receiving.

"It is my intention to justify the confidence placed in me," said Judge Rivers, "by distinguished fellow citizens—Republican, Democrat and American Labor, who have honored me by pledging their support. I feel confident that this campaign will be kept on a high-minded basis, such as every judicial election should be."

Additional Rivers' backing has come from the New York City CIO, the Citizens Union, Congressman Vito Marcantonio and Eugene P. Connolly, ALP candidate for City Council.

SEP 25 1943

Rivers Victory Termed Blow To Discrimination

New York, N. Y.

Daily Worker

Attorney Named Revenue Collector

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



OCT 2 1943

JAMES W. JOHNSON,

46-year-old New York City attorney and veteran of World War I, who last week was sworn in as acting collector of internal revenue in the Third New York District, the second wealthiest in the nation. The new collector is the second of his race to hold this post, Charles W. Anderson having served from 1923 to 1943. He is a graduate of the New York University Law School, and at the time of his elevation was assistant to the collector.

Handsome delivery by upstate New York Senator Joe R. Hanley, Republican, this week was a lift in his race for Lieutenant Governor.

Hanley's winning total, 1,824,902 votes, included a margin of 650,000 over Lieut. Gen. William Haskell, his Democratic and American Labor Party foe, beyond the Westchester County line. Haskell's total was 1,483,530.

Haskell took Brooklyn by 165,450, Bronx by 109,063 and Manhattan by 66,010. Hanley took Queens and Richmond, the former by 23,520 and the latter by 576.

Hanley carried many Republicans with him to victory in the state. The GOP was said to have won twice as many Mayoralty contests as the Democrats. Troy elected its first Republican Mayor in 16 years.

NOV 4 1943

RIVERS ELECTED

A highlight of the election was the victory of Justice Francis Rivers, Republican and ALP candidate, to the Manhattan City Court. His triumph by a vote of 166,67[illegible] to 143,858 for Joseph T. Higg[illegible] Democrat, was a blow against racial intolerance as it brought the first election of a Negro to a county-wide judicial office in New York City.

Rivers' victory gives him the highest judicial office held by one of his race through elective choice anywhere in the country since the Civil War. His term runs for 10 years at $17,500 a year.

He polled 105,406 votes on the Republican ticket and 61,225 on the ALP line.

Rep. Vito Marcantonio, chairman of the New York County Committee of the ALP, hailed the Rivers' election as "a blow against discrimination" and "America's answer to intolerance."

Other results at a glance:

		84,872	Joyce (D-L)
		56,761	Hirsch (R)
MUNICIPAL CT., QUEENS			
Collins (R-D-L)		155,911	Sullivan (D)
McGrath (R-D-L)		133,595	Ecker (R-L)
SUPREME COURT			
(Seven Elected)			
Collins (R-D-L)		577,610	Frankenthaler (Jud.)
McGrath (R-D-L)		568,674	
Unt[illegible] (RD-L)		567,274	Stackell (D)

		352,657	
		133,001	
MUNICIPAL CT., MANHATTAN			
		20,711	
		19,487	
DIST. ATTY., QUEENS			
		168,077	
		123,247	
CITY COURT, BROOKLYN			
		536,308	Orr (L)
		415,611	Hahn (R)
COUNTY CT., BRONX			
		411,337	
		267,381	Farrell (D-L)
		217,577	Conroy (R)
CITY COURT			
		159,123	
		146,003	Schackno (D)
		140,600	Weinkrantz (L)
			Greenbush (R)
CITY COURT, BRONX			
		120,963	

		84,872	Joyce (D-L)
		56,761	Hirsch (R)
MUNICIPAL CT., QUEENS			
Collins (R-D-L)		155,911	Sullivan (D)
McGrath (R-D-L)		133,595	Ecker (R-L)
SUPREME COURT, BRONX			
(Seven Elected)			
Collins (R-D-L)		108,891	Sullivan (D-L)
McGrath (R-D-L)		88,781	Hockert (R)
Unt[illegible] (RD-L)		56,132	
CITY COURT, BROOKLYN			
		536,308	Orr (L)
		415,611	Hahn (R)
COUNTY CT., BRONX			
		411,337	
		267,381	Farrell (D-L)
		217,577	Conroy (R)
CITY COURT			
		159,123	
		146,003	Schackno (D)
		140,600	Weinkrantz (L)
			Greenbush (R)
CITY COURT, BRONX			
		120,963	

Justice Rivers' Career Led Over A Rough Trail

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

NOV 13 1943

Staff Correspondence

NEW YORK, N. Y. — Republican and American Labor Party votes combined in the election last week to give Justice Francis E. Rivers a plurality over his white Democratic opponent, Joseph T. Higgins, which is expected to exceed 25,000 when the final tallies are made, and thereby elect him a justice of the Manhattan city court bench.

The tall, pleasant-faced jurist who is just 50, by his victory, won the right to serve for ten years in this capacity at an annual salary of $17,500, becoming the highest paid public official in the Negro race in the nation.

CAME UP ROUGH WAY

Like the average successful American Negro, Mr. Justice Rivers came upon the rough side of the mountain. The road led from his native Kansas City, Kans., by way of Washington, D. C., to Yale University in New Haven, Conn. Here he chose to do his major work in economics and history meanwhile paying most of his expenses with a dishwashing job.

His reward was election to Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's highest honorary scholastic society, and an A.B. degree. One year at Harvard's law school convinced the ambitious youth that Blackstone and work didn't get along so well. And he was anxious to become a topflight lawyer.

So the road began to wind. Taking a job as an inspector at the Winchester firearms plant to earn enough money to complete his law course, his plan was interrupted when World War I seared the pages of history. The trail carried him to the Officers' Training School at Des Moines, Ia., then overseas as a first lieutenant of infantry in the 92nd Division with the AEF and through many campaigns, including the famous Meuse-Argonne offensive.

Meanwhile, on May 27, 1918 after an acquaintance of four days, he met and married Miss Lucy Ellen Miller, and nine days later sailed for France.

OPERATED MEAT MARKET

Back in New York in 1919, young Rivers and two of his overseas companions ran a meat market for about six months (he had temporarily abandoned the idea of finishing his law course). His next venture was to get a banking or insurance job, but 60 firms paid no attention to the Yale Phi Beta Kappa Key and his role in helping to "make the world safe for democracy," and promptly turned him down because he was a Negro.

The trail finally led him to the Post Office until he entered the law school at Columbia University in 1921, receiving his degree in 1922.

Judge Jonah J. Goldstein, who is now leading the fight for the admission of the new justice to the American Bar Association, gave the young lawyer his first opportunity to practice his chosen profession. From 1923 to 1925 he practiced with Goldstein and Goldstein, then Finklestein and Welling until he established his own offices in 1925.



JUSTICE FRANCIS E. RIVERS

IN LEGISLATURE

In 1929 the young lawyer won a seat in the New York State Assembly from the 19th Assembly District of New York County. Among other bills he sponsored which were enacted into law was one creating the Tenth Municipal Court District with two justices and adding six justices in other municipal court districts in Manhattan. Ironically enough, when in 1930 he ran for the job he had created, he was defeated by 700 votes.

Named assistant district attorney by District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey, Judge Rivers served in that capacity until appointed by Governor Dewey on September 16 of this year as a justice of the city court, succeeding City Court Justice James C. Madigan, who died last August before his term expired.

Commenting on his election to the judgeship, the new justice said he was "tremendously proud of the confidence that the voters of New York have placed in me," and added that "it will be my constant endeavor to be worthy of their trusts."

To those who have met and talked with the justice, such an expression would be expected. Although pleasant and easy to meet, at once the feeling is registered that he takes his job seriously. He is interested in people an what makes them as they are. For that reason, he says his wish is not for power, but rather to be a fair, impartial and human judge, and do his job well.

Makes Him Judge

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.



ASSISTANT DISTRICT Attorney Francis E. Rivers who was named a City Court Judge this week by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey. Only recently, Mr. Rivers, was barred, allegedly on account of color, from membership in the American Bar Association. Now, he is in possession of the highest judicial post ever held by a Negro in America.

Rivers Takes Oath Amid Huge Audience

Atlanta, Georgia
DEC 18 1943
Daily World

NEW YORK — (Calvin's News Service) — Even though the $17,600 job as a Court Justice for New York City will last only until the end of the year, there was a large crowd on hand to see Francis Ellis Rivers, former Assistant District Attorney, sworn in. Rivers now has the highest paid and highest ranking judicial job ever given a Negro.

Secretary of State Thomas J. Curran administered the oath in the City Court on Chambers Street. Chief Justice John A. Byrnes, who presided with all City Court justices present, referred to his new asociate as "a good legislator" and to work in his District Attorney's office as "a credit to the community."

JUSTICE TAKES THE OATH

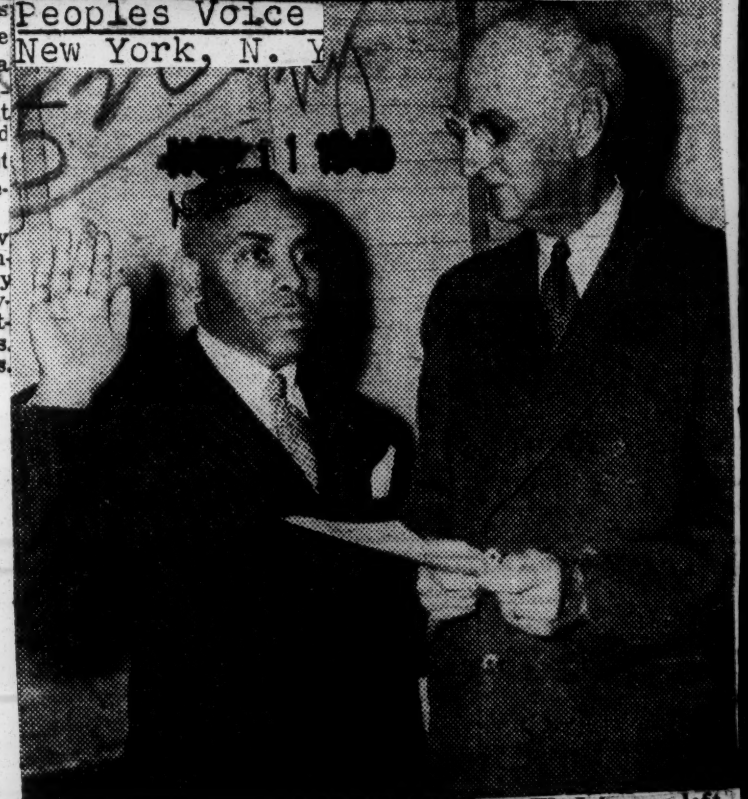
Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.



The appointment of Francis E. Rivers to the post of Justice of New York Courts marked a new first in achievements for Negro leaders and proves that "it can happen here." The post held by Mr. Rivers is the highest judicial post ever held by a Negro in New York.

Above is a picture of the new justice being sworn in by Thomas Curan, New York Secretary of State. Paul Lockwood, Governor Thomas E. Dewey's assistant (second from left), and Mrs. Rivers witnessed the proceedings.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.



NEW INTERNAL REVENUE COLLECTOR James W. Johnson, left, is shown taking the oath of office as collector of internal revenue for the third district, New York, on Dec. 1. The oath is being administered by Judge John C. Knox.—(INP foto).

52c-1943

CONGRATULATIONS

New York Age New York, N. Y.

CONGRATULATIONS are in order this week to James W. Johnson who has been appointed Collector of Internal Revenue for the Third New York District, the second largest collection district in the country.

Congratulations are also in order to President Roosevelt who at long last has seen fit to appoint Negroes through this appointment. There is no secret that the President's failure to name a Negro as successor to Charles W. Anderson, the first Negro Collector of the district, was construed as a definite disregard of Negroes and gave the Republican Party ammunition with which to go to Negro voters and point out that the Democrats would not appoint Negroes to high office.

The appointment of Mr. Johnson, then, is not only a fitting recognition of service by him but also a fitting recognition of the fact that race does not determine whether a man is good or bad; it is his qualifications which should be the deciding factor in all instances.

Senator Robert F. Wagner, of New York, discussing the confirmation of the new Collector said:

"The appointment of Mr. Johnson to head the second largest collection district in the country is a splendid and deserving recognition of the merit principle in advancement in government administration. It reflects also, in these world-shaking times, the ever-increasing recognition of equality of opportunity in our national life, for all men and women of ability, regardless of race or color."

Daily Worker New York, N. Y.

Davis' Election Victory for Unity

As this is written, all returns from the Nov. 2 elections are not yet in. We wish, however, to congratulate the people of Manhattan for electing Benjamin J. Davis to the City Council.

Their action is a profound expression of democratic unity and a recognition of the need to advance the unity of all the people, regardless of race or creed or color. So, too, is the overwhelming vote they gave to Councilman Stanley M. Isaacs, who has a distinguished record as a fighter for civil rights and equality.

Davis' election was made possible because a large section of the borough's citizens realized that it was essential that there continue to be a Negro spokesman in the Council successor to Councilman A. Clayton Powell.

An example of that unity was the nearly 6,000 votes that Davis received on the transfer from labor's candidate for City Council, Eugene P. Connolly, as well as the campaign that Connolly conducted on behalf of unity of Negro and white.

The electoral unity was foreshadowed in the great Win the Freedom Rally at Madison Square Garden last [illegible]. It was foreshadowed in the disciplined manner in which Negro leaders and white labor leaders collaborated to check the Aug. 1st outbreak in Harlem.

The fact that this unity was consummated politically through the candidacy of a Communist leader is not surprising. The Communists have been foremost in the struggle for national unity, for an end to all barriers that set the people off from each other because of race or creed or color, and specifically for a progressive alliance of labor and the Negro people to advance democracy.

The Communists supported Councilman Powell's candidacy in 1941. They gave Dr. Powell and Dr. Channing H. Tobias, another Negro leader, every encouragement to run for Council this year. When neither agreed to run, the Communist candidate, Carl Brodsky in an unprecedented action withdrew to make room for the candidacy of the popular Negro Communist leader.

The election of Davis, as well as the huge vote given to Councilman Stanley Isaacs, will undoubtedly spur the fight for a firmer unity of the people of Manhattan behind the war effort and against the discriminatory practices that mar our democracy.

NEW YORK



JAMES W. JOHNSON

had followed his career since
as named chief office deputy
tor for the third district in
1939.
ginning the general practice
w in 1927, following gradua-
from the law school of New
University., Mr. Johnson's
vements in his chosen field
him a marked man.
For one who has spent so
ny years in dealing with
ne of the country's largest
venue figures, you would ex-
t to meet a man who is
ut as congenial as an add-
machine. But his stimulat-
handshake and cordial
eting almost makes you
get that you are talking to
ax expert.
few days before President
velt nominated him, I had
on to chat with the new col-
in his office while he was
collector, having been
on September 21, 1943, as
uccessor of Joseph T. Hig-
who resigned when he was
nated by the Democratic
to oppose Judge Francis E.
in the November elections
e position of justice of the
ourt of New York.
OF ENERGY
men go, Mr. Johnson is a "work up" to his present position.
fellow — brown-skinned his reply was such a complete
y gray, compactly built—but monograph that little was left to
ughtiness immediately gives be asked for the purpose at hand.
pression that you are talk- For those who have helped in
someone who is all energy promoting his career, Mr. John-
he more you talk, the more son, expresses warm apprecia-
elming this impression be- tion. For others, there are no
castigations. Asked point blank
et the easy readiness with how he stood on the views of one
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and amplifies questions does not simulate cocksureness, but a consummate knowledge of his job and all the circumstances pertaining thereto.

In fact, when asked to briefly relate just how he happened to

Afro-American Baltimore, Maryland

Francis Rivers Elected To Full Term As N. Y. Justice

Negro race in New York state.
Norfolk, Virginia
Journal and Guide

Second Richest Revenue Section Headed By Negro

NEW YORK CITY—(Special to SNS)—In a clean sweep Tuesday, Judge Francis E. Rivers, recently appointed by Governor Dewey to a Justiceship on the City Court, was elected to that court for a full term, defeating Joe T. Higgins, former Collector of Internal Revenue, the Democratic candidate by a majority of more than 22,000 votes. Rivers had filled the unexpired term of the deceased justice, (white). The job pays $17,500 a year, one of the highest salaried positions held by a Negro in this country.

Rivers had the endorsement of the Republican and American Labor Parties. As was expected Rivers carried the Harlem districts by large margins, still the race for the winning candidate fell considerably short of that hoped for by political leaders.

In the race for City Council early reports Tuesday from workers and watchers indicated a strong preference for Ben Davis, former Atlantan, who was running on the Communist ticket. He was the only other Negro candidate on the Manhattan slate conceded even or better chance to win. Davis had the backing of his party plus the solid Negro and progressive vote.

Scattered but significant voting indexes in Brooklyn revealed Norman Johnson, Republican organization choice, making a strong bid for a Council post from the Borough. If elected, Johnson will, like Rivers, be the first Negro elective representative in the history of Kings County.

Both Johnson and Davis must be content and wait for the tallying of the pencil-marked PR ballots before they will definitely know their fates.

If they are elected they will be making political history, for the

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The appointment of Mr. Johnson to head the second largest collection district in the country is a splendid and deserving recognition of the merit principle in advancement in government administration. It reflects also, in these world-shaking times, the ever-increasing recognition of equality of opportunity in our national life," Robert Wagner of New York has entered in the record following the Senate's recent confirmation of James W. Johnson's name was selected by President Franklin D. Roosevelt as collector of internal revenue for the third district of New York.

Setting aside politics altogether the appointment of the 46-year-old lawyer was no surprise to those who are familiar with the assembly district of New York City the impressive manner in which he has wielded significant influence in the nomination and the many overwhelming victories of the present incumbent, Hulan E. Jack.

NO SURPRISE

Yet the impression that you are talking to someone who is all energy and amplifies questions does not simulate cocksureness, but a consummate knowledge of his job and all the circumstances pertaining thereto.

In fact, when asked to briefly relate just how he happened to

NO

reply was: "We are the best of friends, but not political bedfellows."

QUOTES GREEK, LATIN

Another rare characteristic of the new collector, contradictory as it might seem, is his familiarity with the Old World classics. Queried on this, he beamed with pleasure as he quoted choice passages from Homer and Horace in the original Greek and Latin.

Working under Mr. Johnson are nearly 800 men and women of all races, with a generous sprinkling of Negroes, including several deputy collectors. The department occupies three floors of the building [illegible]ast 45th street. As we walked through some of the offices and met various department heads, one could feel, as one paper said of his appointment, that President Roosevelt had named "the right man for the right job."

FROM NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. Johnson is a native of Asheville, N. C., but came to New York in 1911 when a boy, after both his mother and father had died. An older sister, who accompanied him died shortly after her arrival.

His early education was in the public school at Harrisburg, Pa., and Bordentown (N. J.) Industrial School. Later he graduated from the academy at Howard University. He holds both the bachelor and master degrees of law from New York University, the latter degree resulting from completing specialized courses in taxation. In 1921 he married Miss Olive Murray.

Prior to his appointment in the collector's office he had served as a fee-closing attorney for the Home Owners Loan Corporation and as special counsel for the Paul Laurence Dunbar Apartments, Inc., and the Dunbar National Bank of New York.

A World War I veteran, Attorney Johnson volunteered and served as an instrument sergeant with the 349th Field Artillery of the 92nd Division. He was in combat service in France with the American Second Army on the Marbache Sector in the attack on Metz when the Armistice was signed.

CITED FOR SERVICE

Ten years' service with the 369th Infantry, New York National Guard, of which he was regimental adjutant, has won for the new collector the New York State Long and Faithful Service Decoration. In the present war, Mr Johnson has served as a deputy warden and military aide of the 32nd precinct of the New York City Civilian Defense Service.

Before Mr. Higgins' resignation, Johnson had been promoted to assistant to the collector with supervision over the office and field divisions, which position gave him a complete working knowledge of the district which he now heads.

Mr. Johnson becomes the second Negro to be named collector for the third district, which handles more than a billion dollars annually of the nation's funds. The first, Charles W. Anderson, held the post from 1923 to 1934.

Collector Johnson has his own formula for success which includes the motto, "Never say something's right unless you can prove it." He believes that one must always keep improving his knowledge and ability so that he can qualify completely for the job in hand and for any other potential job.

His opinion on the fight of Negroes for economic equality is that they should constantly qualify themselves for jobs "in such a way that even the prejudiced will see their abilities."

A Significant Appointment

Amsterdam News, New York, N. Y.

Gov. Thomas E. Dewey's appointment of Assistant District Attorney Francis E. Rivers to the City Court of New York County to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Justice James C. Madigan, was a bold stroke on the part of the state's chief executive.

Ever since his days as a racket-busting special assistant prosecutor of New York, Mr. Dewey has proved himself a fearless and courageous public official.

During his campaign last year in an interview with the AMSTERDAM NEWS, Mr. Dewey was asked some direct questions on the matter of appointments. One was, "What would you do if a white person in your employ refused (because of prejudice) to work side by side with a Negro. Mr. Dewey answered, "I'd fire him on the spot."

Another question was: "There is a feeling that the Negro is not a part of the state government. Do you plan to do anything about it to make Negroes feel otherwise?" His reply was full and complete. He said:

"I have not hesitated in the past to appoint Negroes to positions where they had to stand on their feet and make decisions. Certainly, out of 600,000 Negroes in the State, there must be many qualified to hold responsible posts in our state administration. I shall make such appointments. Only thus can all colored citizens feel that they are represented in the operation of our government."

As district attorney of New York County, Mr. Dewey appointed three Negroes to his staff, one as full assistant at $10,000 a year. As governor, he has already made two outstanding appointments both precedent-breaking, both carrying great prestige and dignity — Dr. C. B. Powell as member of the New York State Athletic Commission and Mr. Rivers as City Judge.

Governor Dewey, in thus appointing Mr. Rivers to the City Court bench, not only has taken a step toward the fulfillment of his campaign pledge, but has given just recognition to the Negro as a political element in the state, and at the same time has made available the vast talents of useful and deserving citizens to the public at large.

The People's Leaders



It was a great night on Wednesday when the news of Ben Davis' election to the City Council was made known. Many friends and co-workers celebrated at a Harlem nightclub with him. Seen above are Paul Robeson, Ben Davis and Carl Brodsky.

The Night Ben Davis Won-Harlem Cheers Great Victory

New York, N. Y. Daily Worker

By Louise Mitchell

The good people of New York City awoke early yesterday, rubbed their eyes, hung the stars back in the sky and shouted, "Bright morning. Davis has been elected to the Council." A strong song swept through the streets of Harlem and into every corner of the world where hearts beat in victory's rhythm.

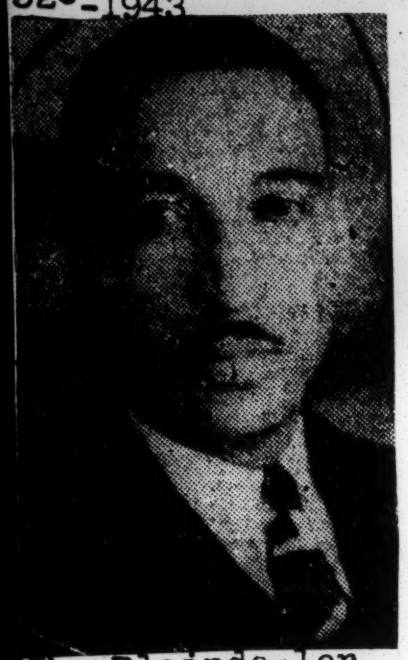
The song started the night before at the [illegible] when the official count was known and the workers applauded. A policeman shook the hands of a "smart politician and intelligent man." The victor was rushed up to Harlem to see some of the people whose swift, hard work helped bring home the ballots.

And when Ben Davis walked into the Harlem Lincoln-Douglass Club, pandemonium broke loose. The men, women and children laughed, screamed, danced, wept, shouted, sang, hugged the winner, and became breathlessly quiet to hear him talk.

I had to come here first because this is my political home, he said. Meeting in the City Council is going to be a little part of each one of you there. This victory of the Negro and white people represents

Mr. Davis then left for [illegible] prompt reception of friends and co-workers at Small's Paradise. New rounds of applause, cheers, demonstrations occurred at street corners and in the broadest unity of labor and win the war forces. This is just a beginning. We are fighting to carry out the aspirations of the people We will make our mark to the country and the city, and the country

52c-1943



The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

DR. C. B. POWELL

Of New York City, who has just been named by Governor Dewey, a member of the New York State Athletic Commission, the first time a colored man has held this post. Dr. Powell, widely known publisher of the Amsterdam News, is president of the Victory Life Insurance company and active in civic and political life in New York. (A--P)

NEGRO TO ADDRESS KINGS GRAND JURY

DEC 3 1943

Will Depict Conditions in 'Little Harlem' at Judge Sobel's Invitation

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

CRITICS OF JURY ASSAILED

Courage of August Body for Report on Area Praised by the Court

Kings County Judge Nathan R. Sobel announced yesterday that he had invited members of the still-functioning August grand jury, which investigated conditions in Brooklyn's "little Harlem," to listen to the charge he will deliver to the December grand jury when he swears in the members of the latter on next Tuesday.

In a letter to Leon Alexander, the foreman of the hold-over grand jury, Judge Sobel declared he would discuss "certain faults and perils" in the August grand jury's presentment. Providing a further airing of the situation in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section, Judge Sobel announced also that Henry Ashcroft, Negro probation officer of the Court of Special Sessions, would speak in the court room, giving the Negro version of conditions there.

Judge Sobel, in his letter to Mr. Alexander, said:

"Shortly following the presentment of the August grand jury concerning crime in Bedford-Stuyvesant, a meeting was called by certain decent responsible citizens of that community. Inevitably, that meeting was attended by certain irresponsible citizens not of that community. And, as might have been expected, they used that meeting to expound and promote their personal passions and prejudices.

"A young Negro present attempted to make reply to these bigots. He was shouted down in spite of the efforts of the chairman and other decent citizens to afford him a hearing.

"That young man Henry Ashcroft, a probation officer of the Court of Special Sessions. Because I believe in the right of free speech, not merely as an abstract ideal but as a practical matter, I have offered Henry Ashcroft, as a forum, my court room the morning of Dec. 6. On that occasion I shall swear in the December grand jury charged with the investigation of all crime in Brooklyn for that month.

Assails Critics of Jury

"I shall also take that occasion to discuss with the December grand jury certain faults and perils contained in your presentment. I assure you I did not make any impulsive decision to do so.

"Believe me, I am deeply concerned by the callous presumptuousness of those individuals who at public meetings and in the press have sought to impugn the motives of the members of the August grand jury. I am certain that you have acted honestly and with complete sincerity. With fine courage you have attacked an undoubted evil condition in Bedford-Stuyvesant which has for many months been the great concern not alone of law enforcement officials but of all the fine decent Negro citizens of that community.

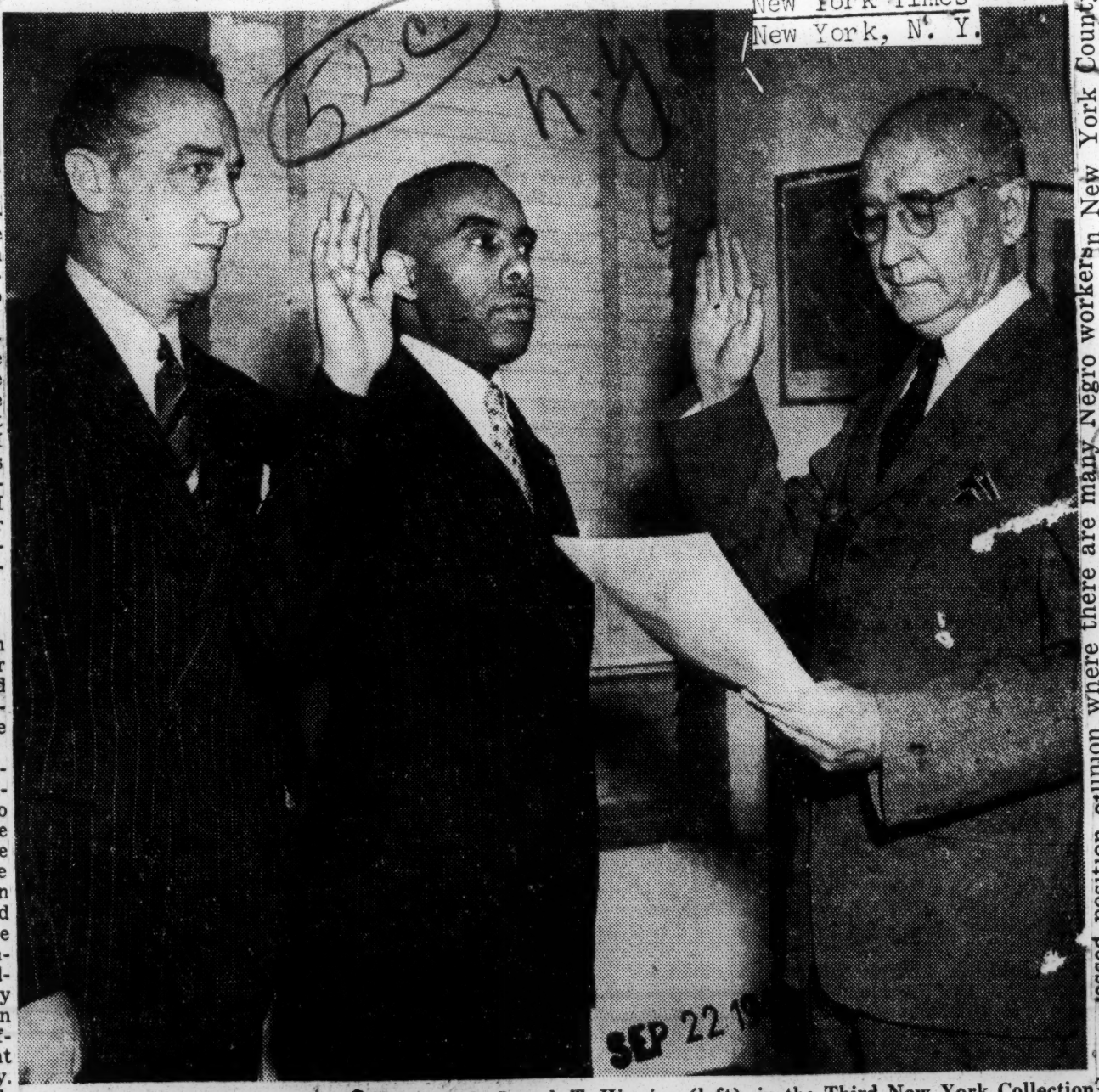
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"More important, however, I believe that you will wish to hear Mr. Ashcroft, who was denied the right to free speech at a meeting called as a result of the presentment. For the self-same bill of rights which establishes our grand jury system also forbids the suppression of free speech."

Welfare Commissioner Leo Arnstein made public a report yesterday showing that he had reinvestigated all relief cases in the Bedford-Stuyvesant area, and that 99.4 per cent of the cases found on relief had been proved legitimate. Twenty-four of the 3,933 cases were closed during the month because they were found no longer eligible, he declared. This withdrawal of eligibility is about the same as would happen without re-investigation, he said.

New York

ACTING COLLECTOR OF INTERNAL REVENUE SWORN HERE



New York Times
New York, N. Y.

James W. Johnson (center), who succeeds Joseph T. Higgins (left), in the Third New York Collection District, takes the oath from E. L. Swift, supervisor of accounts and collections. The New York Times

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Alfange and Rivers

IN THE spirit of Pegler and Martin Dies, Dean Alfange has denounced the struggle for political recognition of the Negro people as "un-American."

Thus has he labelled the New York County Committee of the American Labor Party for its insistence upon the nomination of a Negro attorney, Francis E. Rivers, for city judge.

Fronting for the Dubinsky-Social Democratic group which controls the "right wing" of the American Labor Party, Alfange has echoed the frequently-expressed position of numerous where there are many Negro workers in New York County, aids them in putting important factor in the campaign for Rivers is the extent to which the Negro people are rotten to register next week.

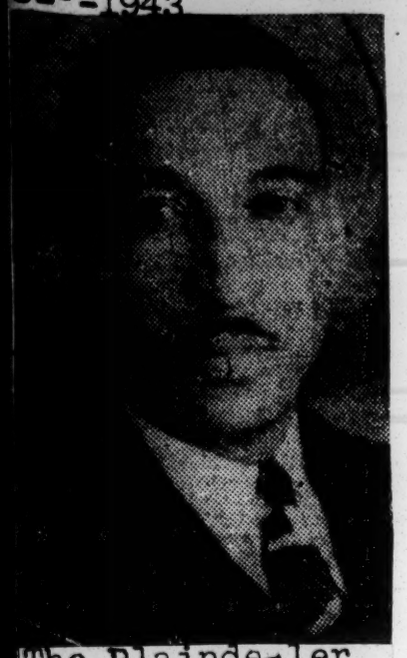
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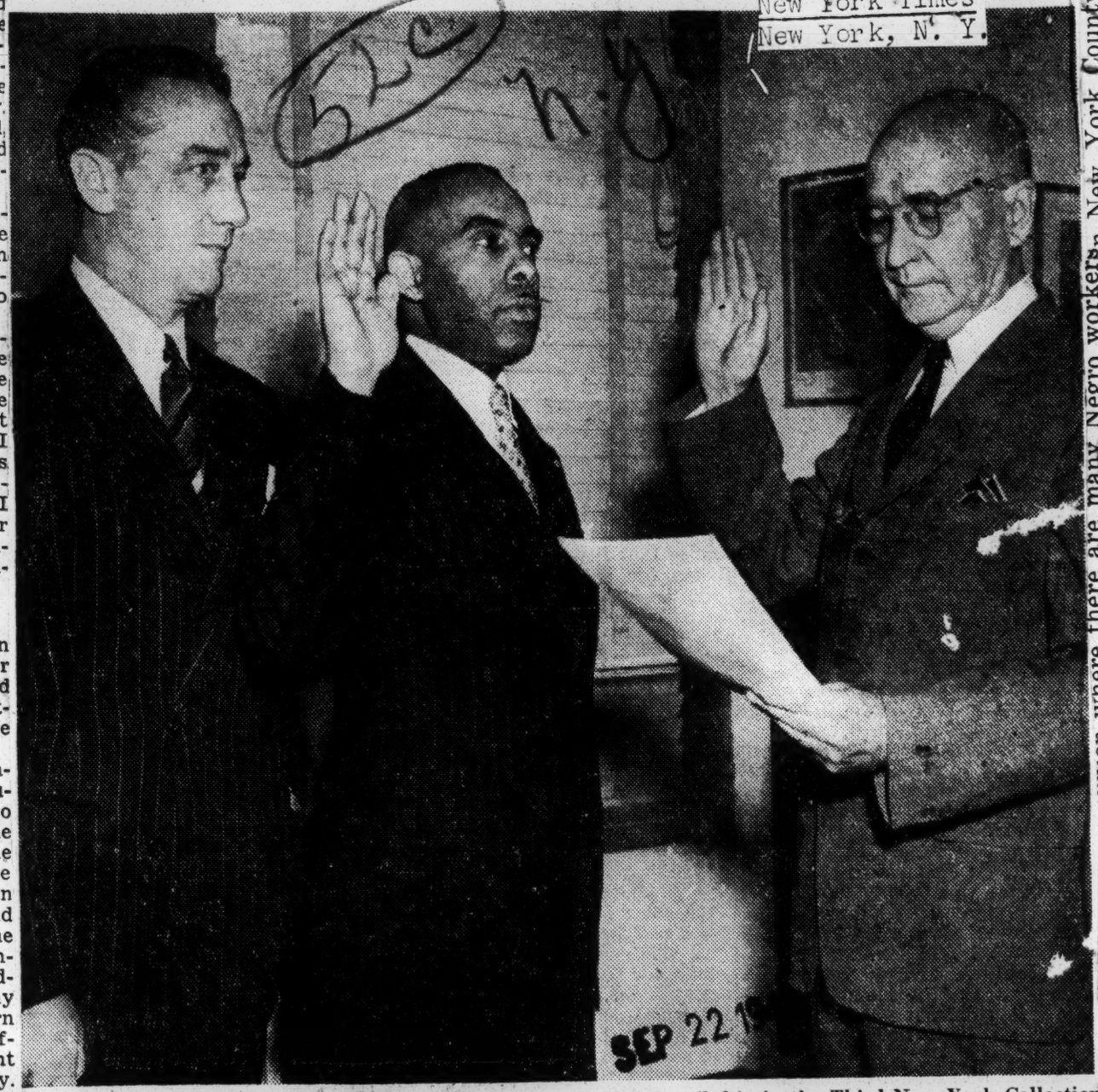
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SEP 22 1943

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SEP 1 1943

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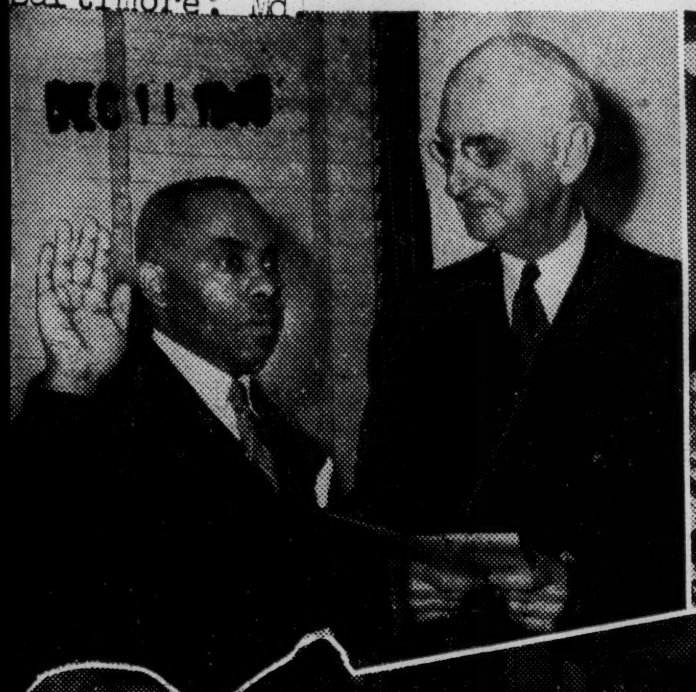
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who first nominated Alfange also attacks Rivers for accepting ans champions of the "Communist-dominated" ALP support. Has consistent resistance he forgotten so soon that he not only ac- discrimination bills in cepted that same support in his campaign for governor last year, but even pleaded for amply proves. They it? Is he ready to apologize for President, rely demagogic, vote- or Lt.-General Haskell, because they are position taken by Al- supported by the ALP in New York County? that, in fact, such a struggle constitutes to the passage of anti-discrimination bills in the State Legislature and chose Rivers for "purely demagogic, special interest" reasons. The practical effect of that position is to acquiesce in the continued subjection of the Negro people, as is patent in Dubinsky's own "discrimination."

5Rc-1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Md
NEW YORK

James W. Johnson Sworn in; Accepts $477,000,000







HISTORIC CEREMONY. Close-up of the swearing-in of James W. Johnson as collector of Internal Revenue, Third District, last Wednesday morning. Left to right, above, Mr. Johnson is shown taking the oath of office administered by Hon. John C. Knox, senior judge of United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. Right, a small section of the crowd of staff members and visitors who witnessed the ceremony in the office of Internal Revenue 110 East 45th Street. Below, left, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are receiving congratulations from a member of the collector's staff. Immediately after the swearing-in ceremony, Judge Knox supervised the signing of a receipt by Mr. Johnson for $477,000,000, the amount which he took over on that day when he assumed office. The commission from President Roosevelt appointing Mr. Johnson to his important post was delivered to him by E. L. Swift, supervisor-in-charge, who represented the Commissioner of Internal Revenue in the transfer of office.

New Collector Takes Over

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Integration of the Negro into the life and work of American democracy made another forward step last Wednesday morning, when James W. Johnson assumed office as Collector of Internal Revenue for the Third District, 110 East 45th Street.

The important event took on added significance with the signing of a receipt for the colossal sum of $477,000,000 by Mr. Johnson, which was one of the functions of Federal Judge John C. Knox who administered the oath of office. This vast sum, it was said, is the largest amount of Federal, state, municipal or commercial money ever handled by a Negro official in the history of the nation.

The ceremony was attended by big-wigs, including James A. Farley, former Postmaster General and former chairman of the National Democratic Committee, and the other two collectors, Joseph E. Noonan, Jr., of the First District, Brooklyn, and William J. Pedrick of the Second District. Mr. Johnson's Third District includes the area north of 23rd Street, and is the second largest in the country.

Appointed by FDR

Mr. Johnson was nominated by President Roosevelt for the post of Collector on October 25. The nomination was sponsored by Senators Robert F. Wagner and James M. Mead and was confirmed by the Senate on October 27. He is the second Negro to be appointed Collector of Internal Revenue in NYC. Charles W. Anderson, appointed by President Theodore Roosevelt, was the first Negro named and served for several years.

The new Collector has a long and distinguished career in the service of his community, state and country He is a graduate of Howard University and New York University with degrees in law; served as attorney for the HOLC and was special counsel for the Paul Lawrence Dunbar Apartments and the Dunbar National bank. In 1939 he was appointed chief, Office Deputy Collector of the Third N. Y. Collection District and was later promoted Assistant to the Collector.

Won Service Decoration

In the line of community affairs and National Defense, Mr. Johnson's has been full. He served as regimental adjutant of the 369th Infantry, N. Y. National Guard (now 369th Coast Artillery AA) from 1933 to 1940 under four commanding officers, won service decoration, and is a National Guard and Reserve Officer graduate.

Since the outbreak of World War II he has served as deputy warden and military aide of the 32nd Precinct of the New York City Civilian Defense service.

Mr. Johnson is married and has been a resident of New York City since 1911.

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52c-1943

NEW YORK

New Acting Collector Of Internal Revenue

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia



NEW YORK — James W. Johnson, Negro attorney and veteran of the First World War, who, Friday, was sworn in to the post of Acting Collector of Internal Revenue in the Third New York District. He is shown shaking hands with E. Swift, supervisor in charge of collection in New York State.

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.



Francis E. Rivers (Rep.-ALP), elected Justice of the City Court.

Rivers Is Elected City Court Justice

Francis E. Rivers, 50, Republican and ALP candidate, was elected City Court justice yesterday over Joseph T. Higgins, former Collector of Internal Revenue for the Third District, 166,631 to 143,858, and thus was voted into the highest judicial position held by a Negro since the Reconstruction.

Justice Rivers, who had been sitting on the bench since the death of Justice James C. Madigan, Democrat, in August, was elected for a 10-year term at $17,500 a year, believed to be the highest public post salary ever attained by a member of his race.

Backed by Governor Dewey, who appointed him to the court, Justice Rivers received 105,406 Republican votes and 61,225 from the ALP. His victory was hailed by such leaders as Congressman Vito Marcantonio as "a blow against discrimination."

Justice Rivers, a native of Kansas City and a Yale graduate, has long been recognized as a Negro leader. He served on the Republican national committees in 1932, 1936 and 1940 Presidential campaigns and was an assistant district attorney under Frank S. Hogan when he succeeded Justice Madigan.

NEGRO COMMUNIST CHOSEN TO COUNCIL

New York, N. Y.

Manhattan Elects B. J. Davis Jr., Isaacs, Nugent and Carroll—Canvass to End Today

New York Times

Tabulation of the proportional representation vote for City Councilmen was completed last night in Manhattan and Queens. The Brooklyn count, which was suspended at 6:30 o'clock, is to be completed today, terminating the canvass for the city. The Bronx and Richmond completed their counts last week.

Two Democrats, a Communist and a Republican were declared elected in Manhattan after the elimination of two incumbents. Because of the light vote cast, Manhattan is to have four seats in the new Council instead of the present six.

Those elected were:

Stanley M. Isaacs, Republican.
John P. Nugent, Democrat.
William A. Carroll, Democrat.
Benjamin J. Davis Jr., Communist.

In Queens, which is to have three seats in the new Council instead of five, two Democrats and a Republican were elected. They are:

James A. Phillips, Democrat.
Hugh Quinn, Democrat.
Alfred J. Phillips, Republican.

Di Falco Eliminated

S. Samuel Di Falco, incumbent Democrat, was the last to be eliminated from the Manhattan race. He conceded at 9:10 o'clock that fourth place in the Manhattan delegation to the Council would go to Mr. Davis, a Negro, running for the first time. His concession came as tabulators were redistributing the votes of Meyer Goldberg, Republican incumbent, who had been declared defeated at the end of a previous count.

John M. Christensen, Republican incumbent, was the last to be eliminated from the Queens race. He had been running neck-and-neck with the leaders as one candidate after another was eliminated during the day. Down to the final count it had appeared possible that the Queens delegation might consist of two Republicans and a Democrat as easily as two Democrats and a Republican as was finally the case.

At the end of the fourteenth count, when Mr. Christensen was declared defeated, the score stood:

James A. Phillips, Democrat..74,455
Hugh Quinn, Democrat.....60,824
Alfred J. Phillips, Republican.57,593
John M. Christensen, Rep...48,489

Elimination of Mr. Christensen assured the election of the remaining three. Quinn and J. A. Phillips are incumbents. A. J. Phillips is not. Besides Mr. Christensen other incumbents eliminated during the day's counting were George E. Donovan and William N. Conrad, both Democrats. It was the elimination of Mr. Conrad on the next to last count that assured the two remaining Democrats of enough votes to pass Mr. Christensen and win.

Leaders in Brooklyn

Fourteen candidates were still in the running, at least technically, in Brooklyn when counting operations were suspended. Only nine, all incumbents, it was conceded, had any substantial chance of winning the six seats to be filled, however.

These nine, with their total votes at the end of the last count completed yesterday, were:

Peter V. Cacchione, Communist 55,368
Joseph T. Sharkey, Democrat.49,135
Walter R. Hart, Democrat...41,034
Genevieve B. Earle, Republican and Citizens Nonpartisan Committee 40,340
Edward Vogel, Democrat....34,465
Anthony DiGiovanna, Democrat 32,277
Rita Casey, Democrat.....30,358
Louis P. Goldberg, Independent 29,464
William H. McCarthy, Democrat 28,934

The others still in the running were three Republicans, a Democrat and a Labor party candidate. The highest vote received by any of the five was 20,797 for Abraham Bernknopf, the Labor candidate.

Richard Mazza, American Labor candidate, was the last of eleven candidates to be eliminated during the day. His votes will be redistributed to second, third and subsequent choices beginning this morning.

Four candidates, all independents, were eliminated on the basis of the first official count. They were Alan Gruber, Albert E. Rahm, Alexander E. Pastre and Carl S. Rodin. They were followed out of the race in order by Herbert A. Stone, Independent; Gabriel Wechsler, City Fusion; Rose Newman, Independent; Joseph G. Glass, Socialist; Frank Monaco, Independent affiliated with the right wing of the Labor party; Joseph Shapiro, Independent, and Mr. Mazza.

Those eliminated from the Manhattan contest, in the order in which they were dropped, were Layle Lane, Socialist; Saul Berger, Independent; Alan Corelli, Independent; Pearl L. Willen, New Deal Committee; Morris Weinfeld, Democrat; John A. Ross Jr., Republican; Eugene P. Connolly, Labor party; Meyer Goldberg, Republican; S. Samuel DiFalco, Democrat.

Eliminations in Queens were in this order: Fred Hertan, Citizens Non-Partisan Committee; Blanche M. Sayer, Republican; George E. Donovan, Democrat; A. Joseph Donnelly, Labor party; William N. Conrad, Democrat, and J. M. Christensen, Republican.

In the tabulations thus far completed the Democrats have elected six candidates, the Republicans two, Labor party one, the Communists one and Independents one. The independent is Michael J. Quill of the Bronx, president of the Transport Workers Union, who enjoyed the support of left-wing elements in the American party.

Thus with the tabulations that be further to the left than in the present Council where the minority consists of three Labor party members, two Independents who ran for re-election with Republican indorsements, a third Independent and one Councilmen elected as a Republican.

Mr. Cacchione will be returned from Brooklyn when the count is completed there today it would appear that the political views of the minority in the new Council will

Senate Confirms Negro Appointee

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

WASHINGTON D. C.—(ANP)—The senate confirmed the nomination of James W. Johnson of New York as collector of internal revenue for the third district last Wednesday, and Senator Robert Wagner of New York immediately took the occasion to enter into the record a statement of the background and worthiness of Johnson.

"The appointment of Mr. Johnson to head the second largest collection district in the country is a splendid and deserving recognition of the merit principle in advancement in government administration," the senator said. "It reflects also, in these world-shaking times, the ever-increasing recognition of equality of opportunity in our national life."

HOWARD, NYU GRAD

Johnson, a graduate of Howard university, a law graduate of New York university, was in combat service in the last war. He was appointed chief office deputy collector of the third New York collection district on April 21, 1939, later was promoted to the position of assistant to the collector with supervision over the office and field divisions.

He completed a specialized course in taxation and received a master's degree of law at N.Y.U. in June, 1940.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

Dewey Appointee



DR. C. B. POWELL
Of New York City, who has just been named by Governor Dewey, a member of the New York State

William J. Pedrick is collector there and Negroes [illegible] to that office [illegible] in high esteem. Some of them are rather jubilant over the report that Mr. Pedrick is planning to make Charles O. Burton, an employee of ten years, a division head.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Considered



ACTING COLLECTOR of Internal Revenue James W. Johnson (above) may become the successor to Collector Joseph T. Higgins, it is reported this week, giving Negroes recognition they have not received since the Republicans were in power.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Named Acting U.S. Collector

Jas. W. Johnson Takes Over Higgin's Position In Internal Revenue

Assistant Collector of Internal Revenue James W. Johnson, only Negro holding such a position here, was sworn in as Acting Collector of the Third District last week following the resignation of Joseph T. Higgins, who resigned to become a candidate for City Court Justice.

Mr. Johnson, prominent in Democratic politics in the 21st Assembly District prior to his appointment in 1939, will be in charge of the office, 110 E. 45th Street, until President Roosevelt decides on a successor.

A fight for the appointment of a Negro to head the Third District has been going on since President Roosevelt was elected in 1932. Democratic leaders in Harlem have argued consistently that they had been denied a post that was originally "created for us" by the Republicans.

The late Charles W. Anderson held the collectorship for several years when the Republicans were in power.

With that in mind, Harlem's Democratic leaders were mildly excited Wednesday over President Roosevelt's probable decision. They were hoping that the decision would be made many weeks before November 2.

Civil Service Post

Mr. Johnson's post as assistant is covered by civil service regulations. But it is believed that he is willing to accept the new position.

Promotions in the Second Internal Revenue District are expected also, it was learned from political leaders. Of the 200 deputies assigned to that particular area, only three are Negroes.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Marvland

Rivers Elected to $17,500 Judgeship in New York

NEW YORK—Judge Francis E. Rivers, City [illegible] was elected last week to the $17,500 post he had held by appointment since September by a plurality of more than 22,000 votes over his Democratic opponent, Joseph T. Higgins, white.

Judge Rivers, one of six colored persons elected to office during the off-year elections last week, was running under both the Republican and the American Labor party banners and received notable support from voters in down-down precincts.

Complete returns from the 819 precincts showed Rivers with 166,499, and Higgins, 143,794, one of the closest contests that the Manhattan Borough has had in recent years.

Early returns gave Higgins, who in 1937 was considered for the party nomination for [illegible] a lead of 249. Rivers took a 200-vote lead when 150 districts had been counted, but was topped by his opponent when 50 more districts reported.

Rivers went out in front again when 250 districts had been counted and thus the election seesawed untilsawed until nearly all the votes were tallied.

Rivers Yale University Grad

Judge Rivers, 51, is a graduate of Yale University, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa Honorary Society, and Columbia law school.

He was elected to the N.Y. State Assembly in 1929, and was appointed assistant district attorney in 1938 at $7,000 a year. His salary was increased to $10,000 in 1942. In September of this year he was named by Governor Thomas E. Dewey to the vacancy in the city court.

N.Y. Council Results Not Final

Results in the councilmanic election in N.Y.C., where Norman Johnson and Benjamin J. Davis were among the candidates, will not be known for a week or more due to the [illegible] delays under the proportional representation system.

2 Magistrates Elected in Philly

PHILADELPHIA—For the first time in more than two decades, two colored magistrates were elected in the municipal elections here Tuesday as the slate headed by Acting Mayor Bernard Samuel, Republican, scored a virtual landslide over Democrat William C. Bullitt, former Ambassador to France and Russia.

The two magistrates are Hobson Reynolds, Republican, who received 327,027 votes, and Joseph H. Rainey, Democratic incumbent, who polled 269,448.

Councilman Renamed

In the Fourth Councilmanic District, James H. Irvin, Republican incumbent, was elected to his four-year term in the city council, defeating Robert N. C. Nix, prominent attorney and Democrat.

Two Elected in Newark

NEWARK—Dr. J. Otto Hill, Republican incumbent, was re-elected to the State legislature, while James Abrams, Democratic candidate for the assembly, was defeated.

Joseph B. Judkins, Plainfield undertaker and a Republican, was elected coroner of Union County. He is the first colored person in the county to hold this post.

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Hail Davis Election Wilkins, Harlem Paper

An editorial in the New York **Amsterdam News** (emphasis all ours):

"The election of Benjamin Davis to the City Council is, in many respects, the most outstanding feature of the recent councilmanic contest. **Following as it did closely behind the election of Justice Francis E. Rivers to the City Court, it proves conclusively that white voters will vote for qualified Negroes for political offices. Of course, some white and colored politicians have often denied this, either because of ignorance or because of their own selfish motives.**

"Another important point to make about the election of Mr. Davis is that a well organized minority can elect its candidate to the City Council (under proportional representation), particularly if its candidate can win the support of another group of voters. The support of thousands of non-Communist Negroes gave to Mr. Davis is what did the trick for him. **Conversely, the support the Communist Party gave Councilman Powell two years ago greatly aided in his election.**

"The most important of all points to make about the election of Mr. Davis, however, is that he is thoroughly qualified for his membership in the Council. A close student of social problems, courageous, honest and highly educated, Mr. Davis, son of a former Republican National Committeeman from Georgia, should be a real asset to the entire citizenry of New York as a member of its legislative body."

ROY WILKINS

Roy Wilkins, editor of the **Crisis** and assistant executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, writes in his column, "The Watchtower":

". . . Roy Howard's **World-Telegram** had a special writer whip together two articles on how the Communists had used racial and religious issues to win. It was a popular tie-ups to win. . . . More means a crime, according to the W-T, for seriously, the W-T forgets the vicbattle.' Ben Davis to be photographed with us racial and religious campaign appeals w Cab Calloway, Duke Ellington, carried on by the Republicans dur- Paul Robeson and the gorgeous ing the Lehman-Dewey race for Lena Horne. The **World-Telegram** governor. chooses to forget that any candi- "It is a great crime for the Com- date anywhere observes the good munists to use racial appeals, but old American tradition of using for the Republicans to do so only

here in many a decade.

"The Hearst press thinks the **ship battle was the slimiest waged** **Davis election is the last straw and**

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

the Proportional Representational system will have to go. They say PR gives racial and political minorities too much chance to be elected. Well, that is the object of PR. Why should a [illegible]y with say, 100,0[illegible] denied a place in government? Why should that minority be forced to choose between two candidates who do not represent the views of the minority?

"If our system of government is so weak that two Communists out of a Council of 17 members constitute a danger, then we had better be looking into our foundations.

BENEFITS EVERYONE

"As a matter of fact, the presence of two declared Communists in our Council probably will benefit everyone. Communists stimulate activity. They stimulate progressive measures. More often then they voice the aspirations of the plain peoples, even though these plain people would not go so far as to espouse Communism itself.

"As for Ben Davis himself, the City of New York is fortunate to have him in the Council. He is young and able. It is [illegible] doubted whether [illegible] single Council member of any higher caliber. Davis is a graduate of Amherst and the Harvard Law School, two impeccable and aristocratic seats of American learning. He is probably as good a politician as any man in the Council. . . . Needless to say with this background and with the graduate course he has received in the Communist Party, Davis is far from being a greenhorn. . . . **After the dailies stop choking and cussing, they will find that he will make a good Councilman for the people of New York."**



BEN DAVIS, JR.

James W. Johnson Takes Oath As Collector Of The Nation's 2nd Richest Internal Revenue Dist

Age
New York, N. Y.

New Collector Inducted



JAMES W. JOHNSON

Before a distinguished gathering of associates, political figures, friends and his entire staff, James W. Johnson, on Wednesday morning, became the second Negro Collector of Internal Revenue for the Third District of New York when he was sworn in as the fourth collector in the district since it was established in 1915.

With E. L. Swift, supervisor in charge, representing the Commissioner of Internal revenue presiding, the ceremony was held in the Collector's offices at 110 East 45th street. Speaking to the assemblage before the oath was administered were Joseph D. Nunnan, jr., Collector of the 1st District in Brooklyn; Captain William J. Pedrick, Collector of the 2nd District, New York, and former Postmaster General James A. Farley.

Immediately after the oath of office was administered by Federal Judge John C. Knox, Collector Johnson signed a receipt for 477 million dollars, representing the total receipts and accounts of the district which is one of two richest collection districts in the entire country. There are 670 employees in the district, 379 in the office and 291 in the field.

Replying to the congratulatory remarks of the speakers, Mr. Johnson pledged to maintain the same high degree of efficiency which the office had attained under his predecessor Joseph T. Higgins, who resigned to become the Democratic candidate for the City Court Bench.

Mr. Johnson graduated from the Academy of Howard University, Washington, D.C., in 1917 and came to New York to enter the College of the City of New York. Shortly thereafter he left school, enlisted in the army and saw active combat service overseas with the field artillery. On returning to civilian life, he again [illegible]ered college, re[illegible]ceiving his [illegible]or of Laws degree from New York University in 1926. He entered the practice of law and served as attorney for the H. O. L. C. and as special counsel for the Paul Laurence Dunbar Apartments and Dunbar National Bank.

4 Years In Office

On April 21, 1939, he was appointed Chief Office Deputy Collector of the 3rd District, and later was promoted to the position of Assistant to the Collector with supervision over the office and field divisions. He completed specialized courses in taxation and received the degree of Master of Laws from New York University Law School in June, 1940.

The new Collector served as regimental adjutant of the 369th Infantry, N.Y.N.G., from November, 1933 to December, 1940 under four commanding officers. He holds the New York State long and faithful service decoration [illegible] years in the New York National Guard. He is a graduate of the National Guard and Reserve Officers Course, 1938, of the Infantry School, Fort Benning, Ga. Since the onset of World War II, he served as deputy warden and military aide of the 32nd Precinct of the New York City Civilian Defense Service. During 1942, with the assistance of volunteer instructors from the 15th Regiment, New York Guard, he conducted an intensive course of ba[illegible] military drill instruction for the air raid wardens of the 32nd Precinct.

Mr. Johnson is married and has been a resident of New York City since 1914. He is a former New York president of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and among his affiliations are the American Legion, Veterans Corps 15th Regiment, Harlem Lawyers Association, National Bar Association, Beaver Ramapo Democratic Club, Delta Sigma Kappa Fraternity and Reveille Club.

Mr. Johnson was nominated as Collector on October 5 by President Roosevelt and the nomination, sponsored by Senators Robert F. Wagner and James M. Mead, was confirmed by the Senate on October 27th.

Frank Forbes Named Boxing Judge In NYC

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

NEW YORK CITY — Frank Forbes, popular Gotham football, baseball and basketball official and recent candidate for a post on the New York State Athletic Commission, was rewarded for his efforts last week as he was appointed a judge on the commission staff.

The job as commissioner went to Dr. C. B. Powell, New York publisher, but Forbes, who finished way up in the running for the post which is filled by the Governor, came up with a good job to add to the many this talented sports enthusiast has already.

Forbes, a former Howard University athletic great, has been connected with sports most of his life. He handles promotions in New York for the Negro National Baseball League, officiates at games involving the New York police and fire department teams, is recognized official in four sports, boxing, baseball, football and, basketball and has behind him a distinguished career as a sports participant in these sports as well as a promoter and publicity agent for athletic activities.

This adds another paying job to the Negro race, which supplies 70 percent of the participants in United States boxing attractions but hold only a few jobs which pay salaries out of the huge sums of money made by boxing promotions.

NEW YORK

52c-1943

McAlister and Smith, Elderly Counsellors, Urge Negro on Council

A. W. McAlister and Dr. Henry Louis Smith, two elderly citizens whose vigor of opinion has not weakened with the years, have united in a statement which urges Greensboro citizens to elect a Negro member on the city council of seven to be named by the citizens in municipal election on May 4.

So far only one Negro citizen has offered as a council candidate — Rev. R. C. Sharpe.

The McAlister-Smith statement is presented:

"Opportunity To Practice Democracy

"We the undersigned wish to bring to the attention of our fellow citizens a matter of concern to the entire community.

"Negroes constitute about one fourth of the population of Greensboro. They occupy two large sections of our city on the east and south. The services they render are indispensable. They are friendly and cooperative. Under the law they are citizens and taxpayers.

"They have no representative on our city council and therefore no voice in the government of our municipality, and have never had. They have made no demands. They have been patient and polite. They have contributed their part to the fine spirit of inter-racial good will which makes Greensboro an outstanding community in this respect. They are a part of us. 'We are members one of another.' We as a community want to be considerate and cooperative. We want to be democratic. We want to be fair. We can be all these by giving the Negroes representation on our city council. We believe that this recognition, long overdue, should not be longer postponed.

—A. W. McALISTER,
—HENRY LOUIS SMITH."



Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

ADVISORY BOARD TO CITY COUNCIL — High Point, North Carolina's Negro advisory board, a commission of seven men appointed by Mayor A. L. Hoonce and the city council, include standing in the back row, left to right, the Rev. J. E. Melton, chairman; H. I. Keno, L. B. Haizlip, and the Rev. W. S. McLeod. Seated, left to right, Dr. J. C. Morgan, assistant secretary; J. C. Crawford, and W. W. Hoover, secretary.

This board is acting as a clearing house for problems relative to the Negro people of High Point and makes recommendations to the city council concerning these problems. Recently the city council approved the appointment of two uniformed Negro policemen, whose activities and demeanor have won the plaudits of many people in the Piedmont area of North Carolina. (Courtesy High Point Enterprise)

52c-1943
Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Three Negro Representatives In Ohio House

Promise Support Of Friendly Governor's Plans

JAN 8 1943

COLUMBUS, Ohio (SNS)—Governor Bricker and his cabinet have shaped a streamlined wartime legislative program which may enable the 95th Ohio General Assembly convening this week to acheive that perennial hope of a short but active session.

For the first time in Ohio's history the Governor has added his strength the three C's representative Negroes who include, Dr David Tearpeau, of Cincinnati; Sandy F. Ray (Rev.), Columbus, and Chester Gillespie (Atty), Cleveland, all Republicans.

The three Negro representatives will back Governor Bricker's state budget for 1943-44 in which a treasury surplus of more than $30.000.000 must be thrown into the breach created by declining revenues and will be the main order of business.

During his speech approximately eight hours after he has been sworn in as Governor of Ohio for the third successive time, Governor Brickers will on the night of Jan. 11, before Senate and Ohio Representatives briefly outline the following program affecting Negroes, along with his general program.

JAN 8 1943

PUBLIC WELFARE

The State Welfare Department responsible for 37,000 wards of the State of which 9.5 percent are colored in the State Hospital and 4.0 percent in the Feeble Minded Institutions are suffering from unreasonable crowed conditions and Director Sherwood will ask for additional compensation to alleviate the increased cost of food and fuel maintenance.

PAY INCREASES

Governor Bricker's has included in his proposal that the administration increase State employees for those in the lower income group. This will affect some of 9,600 Negro employees of the S

as about 40 percent will fall in pay raise which he proposes.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Plans For Negro Toledo Councilman Are Being Mapped

FEB 11 1943

TOLEDO, Ohio—(SNS)—

Robert "Chick" Lewis, instigator of Toledo's first honorary mayor, is perfecting plans to have a Negro elected to city council this year. If successful, it will be Toledo's first colored councilman.

Petitions are already being signed for Dr. Pulley. FEB 11 1943

Plans are being perfected, when presented to the public, will awaken the colored citizenry of Toledo to their duty and opportunities for the first time to elect their choice to council.

Mr. Lewis said, "if the Negro citizens do not elect a councilman with the present set-up, that will be presented in the near future they never will."

Ohio Town Elects Negro Constable

NOV 20 1943

Informer
Houston Texas

SWANTON, O.—(ANP) — Elijah Holley was one of two successful candidates for the office of constable of Swanton township, a community that borders a rapidly growing settlement of colored people.

Mr. Holley, who operates a garage near Swanton, polled 198 votes. The other elected officer is Frank Turner who was reelected with 208 votes. NOV 1943

Constable Holley is very popular in Swanton receiving support from members of both racial groups. He is the first colored person to hold public office in this area.

3 Councilmen, Judge Elected In Cleveland

Defender
Chicago, Ill

CLEVELAND — (ANP) — The city's three incumbent Negro councilmen were re-elected by considerable majorities in Tuesday's general municipal election in Cleveland. NOV 13 1943

The following returns were observed:

Municipal Judge Perry B. Hackson was elected to the post to which Gov. John W. Bricker appointed him.

Mrs. Jean Murrell Strode Capers, "write-in" candidate in the 11th ward against incumbent Councilman Augustus G. Parker, received 170 votes, less than the number she filed in her qualifying petitions before the primary. Parker was given 2,500 votes.

Call-Post Editor William O. Walker piled up 2,150 votes in the 17th ward, to Robert Pinn's 1,360.

Clarence L. Sharpe, insurance man and president of Cleveland's branch NAACP, though he put up an excellent fight for a council seat in the 18th ward, lost in the election to veteran Councilman Harold Gassaway. NOV 13 1943

John Frew Morning, with 60,095 votes, won a place on the board of education, marking the first time since the death of Mrs. Mary B. Martin that a Negro won representation on the city's school board. Morning became the second Negro in Cleveland's history to be elected to the body.

Morning's victory over two other candidates, Franklin A. Polk and William B. McDiarmid, marks his second try at the post. The other time he annexed a large vote but failed to win.

A graduate of Wilberforce university, 42-year-old Morning is district manager of the Supreme Liberty Life Insurance company. His other activities include presidency of the East End Community center, a member of the board of managers of the Cedar avenue branch YMCA, membership on the ration board in his district, a recent appointee by Mayor Lausche to the Cuyahoga County Fair Rent committee. NOV 13 1943

Cleveland Councilmen Named Again

Defender
Chicago, Ill

CLEVELAND. — (ANP) — All three Negro city councilmen seemed assured of return to office last week as they easily won renomination in Tuesday's primary race and handsomely outstripped tallies of candidates they will face in the November run-offs. OCT 9 1943

The councilmen renamed are Harold T. Gassaway in the heavily pop-

ulated 18th ward; Augustus Parker of the 11th ward, who entered the race without any opposition; and William Walker of the 17th ward who is also editor of the Cleveland Call and Post.

In the run-off elections Gassaway will oppose Clarence L. Sharpe, recent law school graduate who heads the local office of the Atlanta Life Insurance company. Sharpe accumulated only 743 votes to the incumbent's 1,642. Parker will have to face Mrs. Jean Murrell who was eliminated from the primary because of ignorance of election board procedure. Mrs. Murrell has announced she will be a candidate through the "write in" method. Walker's opposition will consist of Robert A. Pinn, who garnered a feeble 470 votes.

Observers of the political situation here predict a coalition of Democrats and Republicans in behalf of the candidacy of Judge Perry B. Jackson of the municipal court. Judge Jackson, a Republican, was appointed to bench to fill an unexpired term but failure of the Democrats to nominate a Negro for the bench has made voters, both Democratic and Republican, here, determined to send a Negro justice to the court. OCT 9 1943

Wins By 4 Votes Over White Rival For Leader Post

Tribune Philadelphia
MAY 15 1943

History was made, Monday night, when Hobson R. Reynolds, prominent North Philadelphia business, was elected leader of the 47th Ward and became the Republican Party's first Negro representative in the City Committee from that Ward.

Reynolds won the election with a close majority of four to succeed John J. Fennen who died recently. With this victory, Reynolds also become the only Negro who is presently heading any local Ward.

The 47th Ward has a majority of colored voters, but not to the extent of the 30th Ward. However, the 30th Ward has a majority of colored committeemen.

MAY 15 1943

Several years ago, Fletcher Amos represented the 47th Ward in the Democratic City Committee. Amos now holds the position of tipstaff in one of the Courts of Common Pleas.

The election of Reynolds as leader of the Ward was secured through the votes of fifteen Negro committeemen and one white committeeman. The opposing candidate for the leadership was Geo. W. Sheean.

The 42-year-old politician is a native of Winton, N. C., where his parents still reside. He came to Philadelphia twenty-six years ago and established his business shortly afterward.

Sixteen years ago, he married Evelyn Crawford Reynolds, popular socialite and newspaper columnist. He is Zone Warden of the 47th Ward with an inter-racial group of approximately 1,500 wardens serving under him.

Reynolds is founder and exalted ruler of the Chris J. Perry Elks' Lodge of North Philadelphia, and has served for sometime as national director of Civil Liberties of the I. B. P. O. E. of W.

The Ward leader attends services at the Wayland Temple Baptist Church, where he acts as chairman of the Trustee Board. He has also been elected to serve several terms in the Pennsylvania State Legislature.

MAY 15 1943

The Negro committeemen who voted for his election on Monday, are Charles Kelly, Luke McNair, Ashville Eaton, William Kelly, William Page, Thomas Bryant, Paul Keene, Clifford Dickerson, George P. Smith, James Hite, William Scarborough, Robert Booker, Clarence Robinson, Elmer Garrison, and Daniel Jackson. The white committeeman is William Carney.

In a statement to the Philadelphia TRIBUNE, Reynolds said that the colored committeemen "showed their desire for Negro leadership, and proved themselves men of high calibre, willing to make any necessary sacrifice for the improvement of their race."

He congratulated his defeated opponent on his splendid show of sportsmanship and commended David Harris, Republican City Chairman, for fairness in stating that "the winner, no matter if he is white or colored, will be accepted on equal ground, and given the same treatment."

Mr. Reynolds feels that the success which Negroes have attained in the 47th Ward should serve as an inspiration to Negroes in this city and throughout the country to get Negro leadership and support it to the highest possible degree.

On School Board

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



HOMER S. BROWN,

Pittsburgh attorney and member of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, who was elected to the Pittsburgh Board of Public Education Friday. He is the first colored person to serve on the board. The legislator was one of two new members (the other one white) chosen by the board of common pleas court judges from more than twenty candidates to fill vacancies created by the resignations of Philip Murray, CIO president, and Alexander P. Reed, board president. Mr. Brown, who is serving his fifth term in the Legislature, was twice voted by legislative correspondents at Harrisburg to be the most able legislator in the House of Representatives. He has resided in the Smoky City nearly thirty years, is a graduate of Va. Union University and the law school of the University of Pittsburgh. He is a member of the boards of directors of the Community Fund and the Pittsburgh Housing Association. Mr. Brown is married and has a 14-year-old son.

Philadelphia Gets Second Race Councilman

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa

PHILADELPHIA — History was made here this week when an announcement of the official vote from the Fourth Councilmanic District revealed that Atty. Robert N. C. Nix won out in a heated race for the fifth seat from this district. He becomes the second Negro from the district to hold a seat since James E. Irvin, incumbent Republican, was on the fourth seat. Nix nosed out his nearest competitor by two votes. This is the first time that two race representatives will be seated in the council at the same time.

DEC 1943

River's Elected To High N.Y. Post; Three Judges Now In Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA—(ANP)— With the current election according to active continuously among Negro the election of Hobson R. Reynolds the first official count. This count Democrats. He also lives in North and the reelection of Joseph H Philadelphia. ing gave Nix seventh-place vote Rainey to six-year terms in the of 62,632, only 31 votes behind the The third magistrate is Edward minor judiciary, this city finds itself with three colored magistrates for the first time in its political history.

The Republican landslide Tuesdays mayoralty, in which Acting Mayor Bernard A. Samuel was elected to the status of a full mayor carried its lone Negro magisterial candidate, Reynolds, to victory with 239,232 votes, the second largest vote polled among the seven minor judiciary aspirants elected.

Split ballots especially in some wards where the voting population is primarily Italian or Jewish, enabled the Democrat incumbent Rainey, to slide to a fifth place victory with 283,808 votes, in the face of his party's overwhelming defeat.

James H. Irvin, West Philadelphia undertaker, retained his Republican seat in City Council with votes. Of the five councilmen to be elected in Irvin's district, the colored councilman was a successful third.

Robert N. C. Nix, Democrat and noted criminal lawyer, beginning in the same district (fourth), lost his chance for a councilmanic seat in the

NOV 13 1943

Republican, who was not ADAMS TH TERM

—(ANP) — When ed in Tuesday's ed for the fifth 38-year-old Nor- as councilman. Negro candidate eared on the ballot, dams has served s chairman of the al committee. His include leadership movement, member- NAACP, trustee st church, and ice on the county Chicago, Ill.

Defender

62,940 newcomer to the bench.

Rainey, a former city editor on a local colored weekly and a reporter on a local white was appointed to the state athletic commission in 1935. He was elected a magistrate two years later. A star athlete during school days at Central high school, Rainey has been



Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Dr. W. RODERICK BROWN



Atty. HOMER S. BROWN

In two significant appointments last week signal honors were shared by two brothers of Pittsburgh who rank high in professional life. Dr. W. Roderick Brown was named a member of the American Trudeau Society's Committee on Medical Information, thus becoming the first Negro to hold office in this national tuberculosis association. (Story on page 4.) Atty. Homer S. Brown, member of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, was appointed a member of the Pittsburgh School Board, the first Negro to gain this privilege.

High Education Post For Brown

NOV 6-

Precedent was established in Pittsburgh last week when Atty. Homer S. Brown, serving his fifth term in the Pennsylvania State Legislature, was elected to the Board of Education from a field of more than 20 candidates. He is the first Negro thus honored in Pittsburgh.

Attorney Brown has twice been voted by legislative correspondents in Harrisburg as the "most able legislator in the House of Representatives."

A resident of Pittsburgh for nearly 30 years, Attorney Brown is a graduate of Virginia Union university, the law school of the University of Pittsburgh, as well as a member of the board of directors of the Community Fund and Pittsburgh Housing association. He is also active in various other civic organizations in Pittsburgh. He holds various honorary degrees.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Defeats McAneny By Scant Margin

DEC 1

Attorney Robert N. C. Nix, 44th Ward Democrat, was declared elected a member of City Council last week, upon the completion of the official count, to represent the 4th (West Philadelphia) district.

Nix won the fifth seat by the scant margin of two votes over his Democratic opponent, Harry T. McAneny, the figures reading: Nix, 62,791; McAneny, 62,789.

Failing of re-election was Councilman George Maxman, now serving in the Armed Forces, who ran below Nix, McAneny, and two other Democratic candidates.

The official count, presided over by Joseph L. Kun and L. Stauffer Oliver, showed the re-election of four incumbents—Wallace R. Egan, 63,398 votes; James G. Clark, 63,306 votes; Charles E. O'Halloran, 63,127 votes; and James H. Irvin 62,859 votes; and Nix.

Nix, a graduate of Lincoln University, Pa., and of the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania, has practiced law here since 1924.

In 1937 he was appointed State's Counsel by Attorney General Charles J. Margiotti and assisted Special Deputy Attorney General Michael Spatola in handling state cases in the local courts.

During the attempt of Gov. Earle to establish a Family Court, Nix was mentioned as a possible member. However, he was not appointed, and the Family Court was subsequently thrown into the discard by the State courts.

Long active in Democratic politics, he has also been president of the Negro Democratic Committeemen's Association.

He is married, lives at 4837 Fairmount avenue, and has one son.



Atty. R. N. C. Nix

52c-1943
The Worker
New York, N. Y.

Nashville Negro Primary Victor

MAY 23 1943

By Rob F. Hall

(Special to The Worker)

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Standing tenth in a field of 43 candidates, Z. Alexander Looby, Negro attorney and candidate for city councilman, rolled up a sufficiently large number of votes in the municipal elections here last Thursday practically to insure that, for the first time since Reconstruction, a Negro will sit in the city governing body.

In the Fifth Ward, which Mr. Looby seeks to represent, h[e] his nine opponents, with a v[ote] 3,164. His nearest rival re[ceived] 2,493 votes. Despite the [re]divisions of the city, howeve[r] didates [in] the seven war[ds] two candidates-at-large a[re] elected on the basis of the ci[ty] vote. The run-off, in wh[ich] Looby has an excellent c[hance] election, will take plac[e] weeks. There were 1[8] cast and Mr. Looby's [vote] th[at] 3,000 is a good sixth of the tota[l].

Mr. Looby made a dignified bu[t] spirited campaign. On Wednesday night his headquarters in the colored YMCA building were crowded with Negro campaign workers, with some white citizens dropping in to wish them success. His total vote includes many white voters, local observers here [say].

MAY 23 1943

"We appealed for white support," said one of Mr. Looby's campaign workers, "and we got it." In advertisements placed in the daily papers, Mr. Looby's campaign committee pointed out that in a city with one-third of its population Negro, one Negro councilman out of nine shouldn't "offend any so-called tradition, prejudice or scruple of an honest, intelligent, fair-minded white man or woman."

"Black men are fighting and dying in foreign lands today for democracy, and, too, for a government built upon the theory that taxation without representation is tyranny."

Mr. Looby is well known here [for] his leadership in the [organi]zation of teachers'

MAY 23 1943

[years] ago, another Negro [lead]er, Dr. H. H. Walker, was elected to the city council, but was robbed of the victory by the crudest and most brazen skullduggery. When the count of the ballots was almost completed, and it was clear that Dr. Walker was going to win by a large margin, the lights suddenly went out. When they were restored, the ballot boxes had disappeared and were never found. The state attorney general ruled that inasmuch as Dr. Walker had not been certified, his election was not legal.

MAY 23 1943

In 1936, Dr. Walker ran again. But on the night before the elections hoodlums staged a riot, in which a Negro was killed, and succeeded in preventing Negroes from going to the polls.

The year 1943 is considered something different. Mr. Looby is guaranteed the support of a section of white voters who see in his election an answer to those Bourbon disrupters who are trying to destroy national unity and weaken the war effort.

Nashville Tenn. Banner
May 26, 1943

City Council Runoff Vote Set Tomorrow

Nashville voters will go to the polls for the second time in two weeks tomorrow to elect seven members of the nine-man "streamlined" City Council set up by the 1943 City Charter.

Fourteen names will appear on the runoff ballot, all of them leaders and runners-up in the general election held two weeks ago.

Five of the seven men to be elected will represent new wards created by the charter and two will be chosen councilmen-at-large, but every voter in the city is allowed to vote for seven candidates. No poll tax payment is required.

All candidates except two are divided into two tickets, the Business Men's Ticket, which is pledged to independence in the council and action on merits rather than on the position of the city administration, and the Citizens' Ticket, backed by Mayor Thomas L. Cummings and composed entirely of his personal supporters.

The Business Men's Ticiket is composed of [H]. A. (Bob) Friedmann, new First Ward; Dan Garfinkle, new Second Ward; Felix Z. Wilson, new Third Ward; Bryan Jones, new Seventh Ward; and A. M. Bibbs and John H. Lechleiter, city-at-large.

On the Citizens' Ticket are Henry H. Sadler, new First Ward; Charles Riley, new Second Ward; L. A. (Dutch) Morrissey, new Third Ward; B. O. Briley, new Seventh Ward, and Toney St. Charles and W. W. Woodall, city-at-large.

Seeking the new Fifth Ward council seat are Alex M. Hines, West Nashville druggist, and Z. Alexander Looby, Negro attorney, neither of whom has been officially designated as a member of a ticket.

Two of the nine council seats were filled in the general election. U. M. (Red) Williams, president of the old 27-man body, won out over his lone opponent for new Fourth Ward councilman and W. J. (Bill) Byram secured a majority over all three of his opponents to represent the new Sixth Ward.

The new council will take office next Tuesday.

Every effort was being made today to get out the largest possible vote, although general public interest has admittedly diminished considerably since major offices were filled in the general election. Some observers predicted tomorrow's vote would not exceed half the 18,400 cast two weeks ago, and that total was considered disproportionately low.

Voting Places

Nashville's 32 voting places will be open from 9 a. m. to 7 p. m., and the relatively small ballot is expected to enable tabulations to be completed within two hours after the time the polls close.

Voting places will be the same as those used two weeks ago, the Davidson County Board of Election Commissioners announced. For election purposes, the city again is divided into the 27 old wards, five of which contain two voting precincts.

The voting places are as follows:

First Ward—Fire Hall, 1312 Third Avenue, North.
Second Ward—Elizabeth Park Community House.
Third Ward—1625 Jo Johnston Avenue.
Fourth Ward—1033 Jefferson Street.
Fifth Ward—Gay Street Fire Hall.
Sixth Ward—Deaderick Street Fire Headquarters.
Seventh Ward—103 Eighth Avenue, South.
Eighth Ward—Twelfth Avenue, South, and Division Street.
Ninth Ward—1516 Commerce Street.
Tenth Ward—Fire Hall, Seventeenth Avenue, South.
Eleventh Ward—3501 Charlotte Avenue.
Twelfth Ward—Charlotte Avenue Fire Hall.
Thirteenth Ward—Fire Hall, Second Avenue, South.
Fourteenth Ward—Wharf Avenue Fire Hall.
Fifteenth Ward—Fourth Avenue, South, and Chestnut Street.
Sixteenth Ward—Fire Hall Eighth Avenue, South.
Seventeenth Ward—Woodland Street Fire Hall.
Eighteenth Ward—Tenth and Fatherland Streets, Community House.
Nineteenth Ward—First Precinct, 815 Main Street; second precinct Fire Hall, Third and Foster Streets.
Twentieth Ward—Shaw's Garage.
Twenty-first Ward—First precinct, Hippodrome Building; second precinct, Twenty-first Avenue South, and Elliston Place.
Twenty-second Ward—First precinct Farris & Henderson Garage, rear 2008 Acklen Avenue; second precinct, Chadwell Service Station.
Twenty-third Ward—Holly Street Fire Hall.
Twenty-fourth Ward—First precinct, Walker's Drug Store, 2700 Belmont Boulevard; second precinct, Hillsboro Road Fire Hall.
Twenty-fifth Ward—Entrance to McCabe Park.
Twenty-six Ward—West End Avenue Fire Hall.
Twenty-seventh Ward—First precinct, Gallatin Road Fire Hall; second precinct, Sedivi's Shoe Shop.

Knoxville Times Journal
October 13, 1943

'Mystery' Of 'Voting Car' Turns Out To Be Er---

City officials last night said they believed they had solved the mystery of the municipally-owned automobile which the afternoon newspaper had reported was hauling prospective voters to the Fifth Ward registration booth at the Commerce Avenue Fire Hall.

City Manager Guy L. Webb ordered an investigation after the News-Sentinel, which is fighting the Administration Ticket, had printed articles that a "black two-door sedan" bearing the lettering "Property of The City of Knoxville" on the side had been used to haul men to the registration booth. The newspaper listed the names of four men who it said had arrived in the particular automobile.

A city employe set out to check these four men. They were listed in the News-Sentinel as John Wright, 506 South Central Street; Filbert Davis, 608 East Vine Avenue; James Smith, 706 East Vine Avenue, all Negroes, and G. Y. Neal, State Street and Clinch Avenue.

Neal, it was learned, is the custodian of the Elks' Club.

Davis and Smith said they had walked to the registration place and Davis added he had registered at the suggestion of Charles Wilson, Negro worker for the Anti-Administration ticket. No John Wright could be found at 506 South Central Street.

The investigation also revealed that the license number for the automobile which the reporter for the afternoon paper had described as a "black two-door sedan" with City of Knoxville lettering on it was a bright red coupe or a dark green and if it was green it didn't have a "City of Knoxville" sign on it.

But City Manager Guy L. Webb last night said he considered the investigation closed and solved after one of his investigators reported a conversation with the reporter who wrote the articles.

"I really don't have any idea whose car it was," the reporter was quoted by the investigator. The News-Sentinel stories, however, had mentioned the Service Department.

"I couldn't see very well," the reporter was quoted further as saying, "and I know Mr. Webb wouldn't be doing anything like that but I just couldn't miss the chance to chide him a bit. I just saw the car as it drove off."

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

WE TOLD 'EM SO

We hazard the opinion (and it is not a very big hazard)—that Negro citizens of Nashville, if called upon to select a city council of nine men would have selected one at least equal in ability to the group of City Fathers now in service and [not] whose behavior would have been even better.

SEP 1943

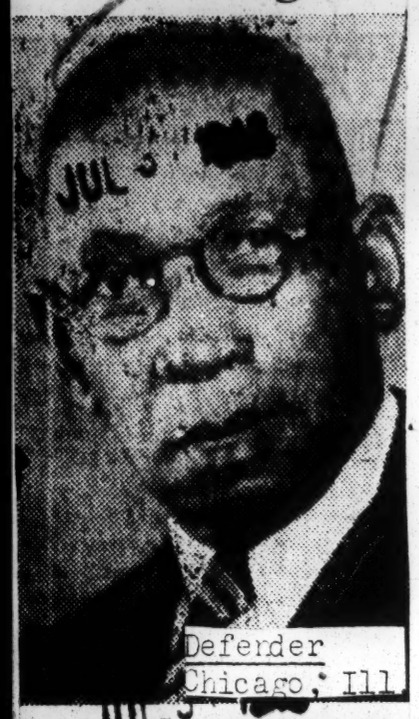
The fact is we are getting some real "Satanic glee" out of the embarrassment that must be coming to the Lords and Masters of Nashville who planned the streamlining Nashville's city council. We never believed they were going to get a better city council from the plan of reducing the body from one of 27 men to one of 9 men. We held all along that this whole plan of reorganizing the city council was conceived in sin and born in iniquity—that it was a scheme to deprive the masses of fair representation in the law-making body of the city government.

Under the 9-man arrangement it was hoped that the special interests of Nashville would hand-pick a group of their obedient servants and who would see to it that the government was operated in the interest of a few of the rich and powerful, as it all along had been up to the advent of the Cummings' administration.

SEP 1943

What made the reduction of the council from 27 to 9 men a very palatable morsel, notwithstanding the fact that it was a reactionary move, made definitely eliminated any "threat" of representation for the Negroes electing a member at a time when we were hearing so much pharasaical prattle about desir

To Chicago



JUL 3
Defender
Chicago, Ill.

MATTHEW THORNTON, SR.

Of Memphis, Tenn., widely known as the "Mayor of Beale Street," as the result of a popular poll held in the Bluff City, left this week for Chicago, where he will spend his annual vacation. "Mayor" Thornton is a postal employe and one of the city's outstanding civic leaders. He was once a member of the Memphis police force. Currently he is most active in the promotion of the purchase of war bonds and interracial goodwill among Memphians. He is the head of one of the city's most prominent families.

52c-1943

Texas

Of All People!

Pittsburgh Courier JUL 10 1943

If the situation were not so serious, the proposal of Congressman Martin Dies of Texas, chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, to investigate "the growing racial antagonisms in this country" would arouse Gargantuan laughter.

Dies represents (?) the Orange-Beaumont district of Texas, where a Negro voter is as rare as a Japanese soldier on Guadalcanal, where Ku Kluxism is a "way of life," and where the level of civil liberty is about that of Nazi Germany.

While the Dies Committee has spent much time and money investigating Communists, and lately the Japanese-American "menace," it has touched very lightly the numerous subversive elements among German-American, Italian-American and Spanish-American groups which are known to be actively promoting the Axis party line, and are generally agreed to be a real menace to national unity. It has scarcely touched the Ku Klux Klan at all.

We would be willing to give Congressman Dies and his associates the benefit of the doubt and praise their announcement to investigate "this dangerous situation" if we felt that they were motivated by a sincere desire to do something definite about it, but there is nothing in the record of this committee to prove that it is anything more than a witch hunting body.

Neither Mr. Dies nor his associate, Starnes of Alabama, has ever shown any desire or inclination during their public careers to deal understandingly or sympathetically with the Negro and problems effecting him. On the contrary they have been opposed to abolition of the poll tax, to an anti-lynching law and to every other effort to remove the causes of interracial conflict in this country.

What reason is there to suppose that their committee will suddenly become an impartial and humanitarian agency, eager and capable of extracting the truth from the mountain of rumor, prejudice and false accusation, and suggest some intelligent and statesmanlike course for the nation to pursue in dealing with the vexatious problem of racial relations?

Moreover, we are strongly of the opinion that sufficient facts are known to enable the leaders of this nation to act promptly to relieve racial tension without any long, wearisome, vituperative hearings whose value is likely to be nil, except in prolonging the life and increasing the appropriation for the Dies Committee.

Will Use Probe To Scalp Heads Of Liberal Group

Pittsburgh Courier JUL 10 1943

By EMANUEL CELLER
Representative Tenth New York District

NEW YORK, July 8—The Dies committee projected investigation of "racial antagonism" in the United States will prove to be a cure worse than the disease. Despite my regard for Mr. Dies personally, previous experiences have taught us that as chairman, he is hardly scientific in his approach to problems of this nature. In view of its record alone, the Dies committee is not qualified to be an impartial judge of any factors that might be developed if such an investigation were studiously pursued.

Quite to the contrary. The committee, because of its well-worn prejudices, would channelize such an investigation along biased lines. Already the gentleman from Texas is vociferously speaking of the "coddling of races" and attributes the misunderstandings that have arisen to these coddling groups, which he delights in calling "un-American."

It is quite obvious that he aims his shafts at the President and Mrs. Roosevelt, among others. At a time such as this, it is highly unfortunate that an investigation be undertaken by a group which, to say the least, has demonstrated a marked lack of tolerance, not to mention sympathy.

OUTLIVED USEFULNESS

The Dies committee has been functioning for over six years. It has spent more than $600,000 of the taxpayers' money. The benefits, if any, have been hardly commensurate. It appears to have outlived its usefulness and the most that may be written off as possible accomplishment is the frightening of some "parlor pinks." In my humble opinion, it has devoted its efforts, almost exclusively, to attacking liberal groups which it persists in regarding as radical or "red" organizations, measured by its own standards. I would say that the committee has been particularly zealous in its endeavors to curdle the milk of human kindness.

To date, 35 lives have been snuffed out as a result of the recent tragic race riots in Detroit. I fear for conditions in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Baltimore, Boston, Washington, St. Louis and other cities with large Negro populations should the Dies committee undertake any general investigation of "racial antagonisms" in the United States. If it continues to follow its well-known pastime of "witch hunting," "bills of attained," and, figuratively speaking, "the riding out on a rail" of its selected victims, further disorders will naturally follow.

"HAVE DONE ENOUGH"

Impartiality is hardly a dominant characteristic of the procedure of the committee. It is anxious to manipulate any facts that may be unearthed as further grist to its mills. It forms its conclusions first and forces evidence in support thereof.

Apparently it is now out to get the scalps of some of the heads of the Democratic administration.

It has thrived on the maintenance of hatreds and frictions—and now, the smell of blood and the cracking of bones have started it off on a fresh scent.

This is an old saying, "Too much is enough." I believe the members of the Dies committee have done "enough" for their country!

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Martin Dies—Public Nuisance.

JUL 11 1943

MARTIN DIES during the past five years has made himself one of the most ridiculous characters in the whole history of the House of Representatives. He has been ridiculous because his committee on un-American activities has served as a front for reactionaries with him as the bluffing, posturing head man. Instead of attacking the enemies of democracy, Dies has attacked some of its greatest exponents, such as Professors Schuman and Lovett, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune and William Pickens.

While Mr. Dies has been sounding off as vociferously as a sea gull at feeding time, in efforts to deprecate the worth of our Russian allies, we have noticed an infinitely quieter denouncement of the Nazis. Could it be that the people of his state, Texas, subscribe more to the Nazi theory of "race" superiority than the Russian? We have failed to read any indicting comment by Representative Dies regarding the recent Beaumont riot in Texas. Perhaps he regards such evidences of lawlessness when perpetrated against helpless Negroes as an American activity and therefore out of the bounds of the labors of himself and his committee.

After the Detroit riot, Mr. Dies came to the asinine conclusion that it was Japanese inspired. Then as an after thought, he intimated that he was going to investigate the general field of growing racial antagonism.

Who nudged Mr. Dies? Apparently, he has been oblivious to these ancient antagonism that such as he makes possible by serving masters who regard little men and black men as sub-human.

Wake up, Mr. Dies! We can give you some leads if you really want to know what causes racial antagonisms. The constitution says men regardless of race or color who were born in this country can vote. Notwithstanding, Negroes and poor whites are systematically denied the ballot in Texas, the home state of Congressman Dies. This, then, is an un-American activity. Likewise, restrictive covenants intended to hem in Negroes in specified areas making it impossible to secure adequate housing facilities.

In Detroit, tension has been growing not because of the Japs but because "un-American" activities are practiced too often by Americans themselves, who bar Negroes from unions, decent and sufficient living quarters. This is likewise true in public accommodations and recreational facilities.

A little critical introspection might disclose conditions, which if remedied, would make any Axis efforts at disrupting the peace on the home front utterly unavailing.

Well Founded Fears

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.
JUL 5 1943

Announcement that Representative Martin Dies may investigate the Detroit riot was received with a loud chorus of objections this week, by liberals and conservatives alike. They feel that now is not the time to tolerate the type and character of hearings, such as Rep. Dies is accustomed to in Washington.

In fact, the viewpoint is well founded. Public confidence in Mr. Dies and his committee has ebbed to the point where most of the country regards it as the butt for bitter contempt and ridicule. The Committee, by the methods it chooses to employ in discrediting honest and upright citizens, has lost its own self-respect and public esteem, and instead, has become a one-man show.

But, quite aside from the rank and file objection to the Texan going into Detroit, let it be known that such an investigation can only serve to heighten the fears of Negroes with respect to his sincerity. For, besides his major objective of investigating citizens who may have the slightest leaning toward communistic, Mr. Dies has consistently refused to inquire into the activities of the Ku Klux Klan, and besides, has not seen fit to investigate the Detroit Housing clash of a year ago, which came within the specific sphere of his committee.

In the light of the past performances of Mr. Dies and his committee, it is to be seriously doubted whether he would, if called upon, conduct an open-minded and fair investigation at Detroit. Certainly we would be the last to recommend any such investigation by his committee.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

52c-1943
New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Name Negro Territorial Attorney In Virgin Isles

JAN 30 1943

ST. THOMAS, Virgin Islands.—The resignation of Stewart French Territorial Attorney for the Office of Price Administration in the Virgin Islands, to enter the Armed Forces, was announced Tuesday by Jacob A. Robles, director of the OPA office here.

With French's departure, Nelson H. Nichols, jr. tne Chief Enforcement Attorney was appointed Acting Territorial Attorney. Mr. Nichols, a Negro is a native of Atlantic City, N. J.

JAN 30 1943

Prior to his appointment as Territorial Attorney last August, Mr. French had been the Eexecutive Assistant to Governor Charles Harwood. He was attorney in the Department of Justice for more than two years, serving in the Trial Section of the anti-Trust Division in Washington and New York, and later was a prosecuting attorney in New York City.

52d-1943

Ben Davis' Election In New York City Sign Of Political Intelligence

Tribune Philadelphia, Pa

THE election of Ben Davis, Jr., a Communist, as a City Councilman of New York City, is another indication that colored voters are "coming of age."

Of course, there are still the dyed-in-the-wool Republican stalwarts and the not-so-dyed-in-the-wool Democrats (because of their recent conversion), to whom it is heresy to vote anything but their party ticket.

Nevertheless, colored voters, at least in New York City, are sufficiently sophisticated politically to know that the average party label is meaningless and must not be permitted to act as a barrier to racial progress.

Communists Oust Herndon From the Party

Bee Chicago, Ill

NEW YORK, Sept. 16—(ANP)—According to his friends, the recent ouster of A. B. Herndon from the Communist party may be attributed to two chief reasons, first, his efforts to escape the draft proved embarrassing to the party in view of its all-out war crusade, and secondly, Herndon's growing conviction that Communists are neglecting the cause of the American Negro in their advocacy of an immediate second front in Europe.

The party disavows any responsibility for Herndon, former member of the Central committee or for the editorial or business policies of the Negro Quarterly which he edits.

Herndon lost an appeal in August to be reclassified from 1-A to 2-A on the selective service list, on the grounds that he was indispensable as editor of the publication. He has been active in the Communist party as an organizer in the South and attracted attention in 1937 when the supreme court voted to free him from an 18-20 year sentenced imposed in Georgia for allegedly attempting to incite rebellion.

Party Education

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

Wide Interest Shown In Negro Question

By Elizabeth Lawson

Director of Full-Time School, Workers School

Sixty-one men and women gathered daily for two weeks in November, at 9 o'clock each morning, to study the special problems of the Negro people today. The occasion was the full-time two-week morning school organized by the Workers School. These men and women came from all over America from as far west as St. Louis and as far south as New Orleans.

It was a cross-section of an America aroused at the fact that Jim Crow barriers still stand as the greatest blot upon our democracy. The longing of these people to remove from their country forever the shame of racial discrimination was joined to their desire to contribute to victory in this war. They came to study the problem from the point of view of Marxism, knowing that Marxism has, in this field as in all others, probed more deeply than any other theory.

Ten years ago, in the midst of the Scottsboro struggle, the contributions of Marxism and of the Communist Party were widely known. But since that time, although the Communists have never for a moment ceased their fight for Negro rights, yet, because the forms of the fight were perhaps a little less dramatic, there has grown up a generation, even within the ranks of the Party, which never heard of Scottsboro, which knew very little of the theoretical aspects of the Negro question and still less of our great traditions in this field. This gap the day school undertook to fill.

GREAT UPSURGE

When we first broached a special school to study the Negro question many said it couldn't be done. People, especially white people, we were assured, were not sufficiently interested in the Negro question to spend two full weeks studying it.

Yet to this school came 37 whites and 24 Negroes, and their chief complaint was: "The time went too fast."

Those who said, "It can't be done" forgot some of the major facts of American political life today.

They forgot that the entire nation, and no longer only a small advanced section of it, is now aroused against discrimination as it has not been since the Civil War. They forgot the great upsurge of the Negro people, the growing unity of all classes and organizations of Negroes for one aim, the winning of the war and the winning of equality. They forgot, further, the increasing respect which the Communist Party commands among non-Communists, especially Negroes.

They forgot that the pressing problems of the war, far from detracting attention from theoretical matters, actually deepen interest in theory. All of these vital political developments were brightly mirrored in the Workers School course.

The class sat under teachers whom it will not soon forget. Probably never will these students let slip from their minds the major contribution to the theory of self-determination made on the last day by Earl Browder. And there were Robert Minor, James W. Ford, Edward Strong, Charles Collins, Francis Franklin, and Elizabeth Lawson.

The class also had an opportunity for laboratory work. One of the Negro students from Philadelphia was denied a room at a New York hotel, under circumstances that made it clear that rooms were available. The class elected a delegation to visit the hotel, and chose as its spokesman a white seaman, putting into practice the theory that it is the whites who must be the first to come forward as champions of Negro rights. The matter was discussed with the hotel management on the basis of the civil rights law of New York State, and a room was obtained.

"IT CAN BE DONE"

The students left the school saying: "It can be done, and it can be done **now**." They were convinced, and deeply so, of the truth of the statement made by Earl Browder in summing up the school's work:

"The Negro people do see the opportunity, not as a pious aspiration for an indefinite future, but as an immediate political task under the present system, of approximating the position of equal citizens in America. This is in itself an exercise of the right of self-determination by the Negro people. It is this choice which gives the possibility of integrating the Negro people into the general democracy of our country, on the basis of complete and unconditional equality, of solving this question now, and of no longer postponing it. The immediate achievement in this period, under the present American system, of complete equality for the Negroes, has been made possible by the war crisis. In the process of solving the greater problem of the whole world, we can and we must find the solution of full and equal citizenship for American Negroes in this country."

52d-1943

Demos May Get Plank For White Supremacy

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
SEP 11 1943

By SAY LACY
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

NEW YORK.— Speculation is rife here and throughout the South as to the turn to be taken by Negro voters should Gov. Chauncey Sparks of Alabama carry out his threat to storm the Democratic National Convention with a plank proclaiming white supremacy.

It is no secret that rival campaign managers are deeply interested in Dixie's reaction to the Sparks proposal, particularly since reports from Negro sources with Republican leanings, indicate the New Deal is strong in favor among the 13,000,000 colored voters throughout the country. The Amsterdam Star-News here, which has long supported Gov. Thomas Dewey for a White House sojourn, admitted following a recent poll, that Negroes are overwhelmingly partial to the Roosevelt administration, with Wendell Willkie running an unpretentious second.

Last week, however, Gov. Sparks began laying plans to elect a pungently anti-New Deal delegation to represent Alabama in the Democratic convention, and made known his intention of making a speech on the convention floor on the race issue. Following this, he intimated, he would attempt, with the aid of previously obtained support, to insert a plank for white supremacy in the Democratic platform.

Believed Anti-Roosevelt Move

Consensus of opinion here is that Gov. Sparks may be serving as the mouthpiece for a sizeable Southern bloc which aims to overrun the New Deal policies, even though it may cost the Democrats their fourth successive administration. It is generally known that Roosevelt's liberalism and the pro-Negro sympathies expressed by Mrs. Roosevelt have curried tremendous disfavor among Southern reactionaries.

In the War Department, high army and diplomatic officials are openly alarmed by the Sparks plan. They hold that such a proposal would be immediately seized by the Jap propagandists and used to their advantage. The Japs, they point out, are already doing pretty well for themselves in harping on the color issue in the Orient.

More deeply concerned, however, are the Democratic bigwigs who have just finished digesting the New York analysis of the Negro vote. They can see that such action on the part of the Alabama governor would unquestionably swing the colored ballot back to its traditional place in Republican ranks.

GOP Biding Time

At the same time, GOP leaders here and keeping quiet, and hoping Gov. Sparks will carry out his threat. For in it they see their best chance for recovery of their lost prestige.

The New York report was based on a poll conducted by one of the city's leading weekly publications, in which 250 leading race organizations and individuals were questioned. It covered every section of the country except the poll-tax Southern states, where most Negroes do not vote, anyway, and included a cross-section of Negro activity.

SEP 11 1943

Opinions were obtained from chairmen of local Urban League chapters, ministers, unions, newspaper editors, legislators, politicians, and officials of the NAACP, YMCA, and YWCA organizations.

One of the questions asked, ". . . o you believe the Negro will, or should organize a solid front on a national scale and support the fourth term as a means of self-protection?"

Roosevelt Sincere

Typical of the replies was one from the Midwest, which opined:

"As we see it in this area, if President Roosevelt is renominated and his opponent is any of the usual political hacks, there is no doubt but that the Negro vote will go overwhelmingly for the President.

The one man who appears to be able to challenge the President is Wendell L. Willkie," 'his letter continued. "I think that if either of the parties have the fortitude to nominate Mr. Willkie that in all probability he will be the successful candidate."

There was some contention that the President had not taken a sufficiently strong stand on Negro rights and that the failure of the Fair Employment Practices Committee was his responsibility, but for the most part, it was agreed he had proceeded as far as political expediency would permit. His prompt action in the Detroit ric's wa cited as an example of his sincerity.

Nine of those questioned considered Dewey, Bricker, Taft or Strassen as likely to offer Roosevelt any serious opposition.

DEMOCRAT

'Cotton Ed' Shouts For New Party

DEC 10 1943

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Veteran South Carolinian Calls For Election Of Byrd As President

Blisters New Deal

Guffey Wouldn't Rate As Democrat In South, He Tells Senate Audience

DEC 10 1943

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—(AP)—Ellison D. (Cotton Ed) Smith, dean of the Senate, today called on Southern Democrats to break away from the New Deal and form a political party of their own with Senator Harry F. Byrd (D), Virginia, as their presidential candidate.

His call for a bolt came in bitter rebuttal of a weekend statement by Senator Joseph F. Guffey (D), Pennsylvania, that an "unholy alliance" of Southern Democrats and Republicans emasculated the administration-backed soldier vote bill. Guffey charged Byrd with being a leader in the "unholy alliance."

With a vitriolic outburst Smith proclaimed:

"I want to nominate Harry Byrd for president right now and call on the Southern States to organize a real Democratic Party to back him up."

An arch foe of the New Deal, he recalled that he has served in the Senate under six presidents.

"I always enjoyed being a senator until this miserable thing came in," he said.

He endorsed a recent floor speech by Senator Josiah W. Bailey (D), North Carolina, who said the time had come for the South to organize its own party.

DEC 10 1943

South Can Control

Smith predicted that if Southern States did organize their own party "you would never have another Democratic president — I mean of a certain variety."

"It is not pleasant for those who for 70-odd years kept the real Democratic Party alive and made possible the election of some of those here now to have those who wouldn't even be considered Democrats in the South attack them in such a manner," he said.

"I think a lot of this opposition to the Southern Democrats comes from envy of the character of the southern men and women. I just don't know what has become of the spirit of America."

Declaring he was from the "deep South," Smith said "I resent the miserable falsehood launched against Harry Byrd."

"I want the South to unite and to say to its critics:

"'All right, if you want to insult us and smear us and unite against us, we will unite ourselves and vote our own convictions'."

Recalling the North-South fight over anti-lynching legislation, Smith asked "how many of you have lived in the midst of lustful cowards who would violate your womanhood?" He said the Southerners had met such a condition and solved it without interference from outsiders.

No Federal Control

As for poll tax legislation which is involved in the soldier vote bill, Smith said he did not intend to have "a gang sitting here in Washington decide who in my State has the right to vote."

Guffey also had charged that the "unholy alliance" was aimed at stifling anti-poll tax legislation. Smith argued that proponents of the soldier vote bill, as supported by the administration, tried to set that legislation up higher than the constitution.

"I am for the constitution, states' rights and white supremacy," he asserted. "You can put me in the doghouse, but you can't keep me from barking."

Smith lashed out at "the great statesman from Pennsylvania"—Guffey—saying he was reminded of a negro song about "a $50 saddle on a $5 horse."

"All these speeches we have wasted on the statesman from Pennsylvania remind me of that song," he said.

Lauding Byrd and Bailey, he said "the great lurid light from Pennsylvania cannot dim their patriotism or obscure their greatness."

Hillman Is Angry

Meanwhile, Chairman Sidney Hillman of the CIO's political action committee assailed as "cynical and brutal" the Senate's revision of the soldier vote bill under which the task of balloting among servicemen was tossed back to the States.

He said organized labor was willing, if necessary, to make it the "No. 1 issue in the 1944 political campaign."

He described the issue as "No. 1 on the list of all liberal and progressive forces."

DEC 10 1943

THE HORIZON

BY P. L. PRATTIS
Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Roosevelt, by Wooing the South, May Lose Rest of the Country and Victory in 1944

THOSE of us who truly love liberty and hope for a better day for all mankind, can devoutly pray that our present leadership, that is, the political leadership represented by the administration in Washington, doesn't outsmart itself. There are also signs that the road it is travelling is not at all sure to lead to victory, either for itself or for the people. From what we see, the administration is trying a shrewd, inside game. It is not letting its real objectives be known. It is trying to sneak up on and around the opposition. It is trying to win a victory without

forced to wonder what ed by the political events of ving on the political nated by the Southern f 1943. Evidence ac- dominated by Southerners from show that the in-rotten boroughs. Every depart- e South weighed in

BY NOSE

ONE is forced to wonder what real political what principles operating in Northern Africa? From what we see, the administration is trying to be very smart politically, both at home and abroad. There are also signs that the road it is travelling is not at all sure to lead to victory, either for itself or for the people. From what we see, the administration is trying a shrewd, inside game. It is not letting its real objectives be known. It is trying to sneak up on and around the opposition. It is trying to win a victory without

Mr. Prattis

Of course, Negro leaders have for years inveighed against the dominant influence of the South, as an ideological group, in national affairs. The Army is dominated by the South. Far more officers in the Army come from the South than from the American public generally. One Texas school has more officers in the Army than West Point. The Navy is dominated by the South. Congress is dominated by Southerners. Every department of government is operating in what principles of conquered territory derive? Our true policy toward Russia has given the impression, secrecy and tem- Spain? Nobody clear cut answers by President Roosevelt, American people and others on this side of the Atlantic in respect to these questions. Our State Department is a veiled mystery to the American people. No wonder its Army come from the South than

ment or bureau in Washington is aware of and the victim of this baleful influence. The Federal Communications commission is fighting for its life today against a Southern congressman caught red-handed in violation of the law. Martin Dies wields the lash over government employes.

SOUTHERN VICTORIES

NOT much attention was paid to Negro protests when the administration laid the poll tax aside as an issue too hot politically. The Army, the Navy and the White House have all yielded to pressure from the South on the Negro problem. So long as this surrender to a minority applied only to Negroes, the rest of the population failed to become alarmed. But now it is seen that evil has no limits. When Wallace was rebuked and fired from the Board of Economic Warfare to save the face of Jesse Jones of Texas, the South won a victory. The South put a squeeze play on the White House to force Sumner Welles out of the White House. That move was dictated in the interest of Cordell Hull of Tennessee. The assistant president of the United States is James Byrnes, best remembered by Negroes as the congressman from South Carolina, who consistently fought appropriations for Howard university. In every direction an American, a white or black American, from the East, North, Middle West or Far West looks, he finds a Southerner in a position of authority.

WHAT IS OBJECT?

Isn't it natural to ask if the administration is selling the rest of the country to the South to try to insure political victory in 1944? But will 100 million citizens stand hog-tied and allow themselves to be whipped into line by 30 million? When the 100 million wake up and find out that the administration is selling them off are they going to sit quietly and take it? It is certain that the South cannot re-elect Mr. Roosevelt by itself. Some help is going to be required from the 100 million. Are they going to help Mr. Roosevelt when they become aware of the humiliation they are suffering? This writer feels that Mr. Roosevelt, by following the present "shrewd" policies designed by his advisers is running the risk of losing so much strength within his party outside the South that he cannot look forward to 1944 with optimism.

Mr. Roosevelt and his advisers should remember that the support of the "solid South" is not always an augury of victory. He should also remember that he has not won with the "solid South" alone.

If the administration doesn't wake up to the necessity soon of taking forthright positions in respect to domestic and foreign policies, regardless of the South, the chances are that it is going to defeat itself. The President should realize that he must fight, fight out in the open. He should accept the challenge and join arms on the basis of what he believes in his heart and mind is right.

Alabama Governor Plans Anti-New Deal Move

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

A SITUATION which may bring the entire Negro question to the floor of the Democratic National Convention is brewing in Alabama.

Alabama's ebullient Gov. Chauncey Sparks is laying plans, first, to elect a pungently anti-New Deal delegation to represent his state in the Democratic convention. Second, he proposes to make a speech on the floor of the convention on the race issue, denouncing Mrs. Roosevelt, and attempting to obtain adoption of a plank in the Democratic platform for white supremacy.

His moves have met with the vigorous opposition of certain of Alabama's liberal Democrats, led by forthright Col. Harry Ayres of the "Anniston Star." They feel that any anti-Negro move such as that proposed by Governor Sparks would do the country no good, would alienate millions of colored voters in New York, Philadelphia and Chicago, and would definitely swing the Negro vote securely back to its traditional position in Republican columns.

As a result, one of the hottest pre-convention battles of the South is already on in Alabama over sending an anti-Roosevelt or pro-Roosevelt delegation to the Democratic National Convention.

Note: War Department executives are aghast at the Sparks proposal, say it would play directly into the hands of Jap propagandists, already doing a good job of harping on the color issue in the Orient.

Charleston, S. C., News-Courier
December 15, 1943

Dollars Are Tangible Evidence

"Although the present Democratic party alias New Deal. . . is far removed from the fundamental and traditional political faith of the South", in the opinion of The Charlotte Observer, "there is no tangible evidence that there exists throughout the South such independence of political mind as would or could accomplish a revived party of independent Jeffersonianism."

"Tangible evidence of independent political mind" would be dollars. When dollars begin to talk, when a campaign fund begins to accumulate, when it shall take on considerable size, a ticket of independent presidential electors will be placed in the field in South Carolina. Speakers from other states will be brought into South Carolina.

Leaders and candidates will make their appearance on the South Carolina stage. In South Carolina is plenty of "independent political mind". Other "tangible evidence" of it is that the New Deal politicians no longer dare to pour out abuse on independent Democratic voters, denouncing them as traitors, as they did as late as ten or five years ago.

No longer is it an insult to a South Carolinian to call him Republican, every man of sense well knowing that the national Democratic party is more actively and noisily pro-negro than is the national Republican party, and only its negro affiliations have been in the way of Republican growth in South Carolina.

The pretended New Dealers (not one of them is a true, informed and convinced New Dealer of the Frankfurter, Walter White, Claude Pepper, Judge Rosenman stamp) hold the offices and draw the salaries. They take out of their salaries the money that supports the party. They have a financial, a vested, interest in Roosevelt "Democracy". As a group they are the most numerous prosperous persons in the state.

When Straightout, Jeffersonian, Wade Hampton Democrats, inheritors and guardians of the Red Shirt principles, raise a campaign fund, the tangible evidence of an independent political mind will sink deep into the popular mind.

In the hands of The News and Courier is a check for $50 which will be sent to the treasurer of the Straightout Democratic party once it shall organize. The News and Courier is, at present, soliciting no subscriptions. There is no organization in sight.

Another person will send a check for $100. He has no boasts, neither has he secrets. He has just written the foregoing article.

THE MERRY-GO-ROUND *By Drew Pearson*

Misses Doris P. Grayson and Eva P. Wahsington were forced to go seven miles over to Osawatomie because Paola restaurants refused to serve Negroes and the arrangements committee of Republicans had made no plans for the Negroes in their group.

The Democrats, Eddie Pruitt, Misses Daisy Smith, Bernice Caldwell and Robert Webster, were entertained and given a most substantial dinner at the home of Mack Vantree in Paola not more than five blocks from where the convention was held.

While the Negro Republicans made a 14-mile round trip to get dinner in Osawatomie the white Republicans from Wyandotte had their dinner in Paola. The fact that these Kansas City, Kas., Negroes were insulted was not brought up in the meeting following dinner at which Errett P. Scrivner was chosen to run for the late U. S. Guyer's seat in Congress.

No statement was made to the Negro press by Wyandotte County Republicans deploring the Paola situation.

Call
Kansas City, Mo.
AUG 6 1943

Negro Democrats Eat in Paola, Kas.

G.O.P. Delegates Had to Go 14 Miles for Meal

AUG 6 1943

The Negro delegates to the Democratic convention to nominate a candidate for U. S. representative of the second district held in Paola Thursday fared much better than their Republican fellows who were in the Kansas town Tuesday for the same purpose.

Advance arrangements for meals and housing if necessary had been made by Barney Sheridan of Paola for the Negro delegates with the Democratic Wyandotte County delegation.

AUG 6 1943

On Tuesday the Republican delegation: Attorney Myles C. Stevens, Clayton Bell, Floyd Anderson,

NEW DEAL FRIENDSHIP

Defender Chicago, Ill.

The Gallup Poll, which is hardly more than an overstuffed national straw vote, reports that the New Deal's simulated friendship to Negroes has done nothing like the damage it was feared to be doing in the South.

A recent Gallup survey reveals that only a negligible degree of fourth-term opposition in Dixie stems from New Deal-Negro relations. Which to us is no astounding revelation!

It has long been JUL 31 1943 that the administration has done little else but engage in a gigantic game of politics in its dealings with the race question. We have never succeeded in mustering the same enthusiasm that others have exhibited when administration cohorts began waving the Gettysburg address with a minimum of benefit to Negroes and a maximum of benefit to themselves.

On at least four occasions JUL 31 1943 since his inauguration in 1932, the President has had the opportunity to promote passage of anti-lynch legislation by a mere wave of his hand. He didn't wave.

Twice within the current four-year term, a single spoken word, or nod of the head, or lifting of the brow from the White House could have blunted the key to Negro disfranchsement in the South through abolition of the despicable poll tax. The White House neither spoke, nodded, nor lifted as a Rooseveltian frown.

Race riots have spread, anti-Negro work stoppages have persisted, persecution of colored soldiers has continued, and no serious effort to halt this sweeping un-Americanism has been forthcoming from the Roosevelt head-quarters.

Farm-labor legislation, which devoid of its trimmings simply made it legal to manacle Negro agricultural workers with the artistry of professional

fondness for Negroes small reason for opposing a fourth term. The South, too, very obviously, sees that in a fourth term, as in the previous three, the race issue would continue in the role of a political football.

The part of embittered this nature the surface politicians pretend professional

as that the New Deal South considers so-called

52d-1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Peace Will Be Difficult, Mrs. F. D. R. Tells Students

180 Delegates from 35 Colleges and Councils Hear First Lady at Lincoln University

By LEON M. SNEAD

OXFORD, Pa.—The democracy for which America is fighting can never become a reality until all citizens, regardless of color or race, are assured of equal opportunity for training and equal opportunity for work, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt declared at Lincoln University Friday night.

Speaking at the fifth annual student conference of the NAACP, attended by 180 delegates from thirty-five colleges, and youth councils, she predicted that although wartime experiences will bring about a greater understanding between races, the period after peace "will be a difficult one for many people all over the world."

"If the foundation for a real and lasting peace is to be laid, this nation must consider now how it can co-operate with other nations in the transition period after the war," the First Lady declared.

Need of Racial Co-operation

"We are going to have to meet and work with people of every race and religion all over the world. There will be great differences in backgrounds. White persons must learn that they are not to be set apart from or above anyone else.

"When we encounter people who have not had an opportunity for development, we must give them a chance without exploitation, a fault all too prevalent in the past."

Make Democracy Real

Here in America, Mrs. Roosevelt said, "we have much to do in giving all of our people equal opportunities for education and training, which should be the beginning point if the democracy we talk about is to become a reality."

Walter White, NAACP secretary, in a short speech, denounced Comptroller Lindsay Warren's ruling that it was not compulsory to obey the two Executive orders against the President."

White Rebukes Warren

The NAACP official charged that Warren's decision on the executive orders and the attempts made to postpone the FEPC railroad hearings were indicative of the presence of "reactionary forces of racial bigotry" now trying to regain control of the government.



MRS. FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT

Keynoting the three-day parley, Mrs. Roosevelt told the delegates that in drawing up their "blueprint for action"—the theme of the conference — they should remember that the battle against prejudice is not restricted to colored persons.

She urged them to face their problems "squarely" but, as far as possible, to meet the challenge of the transition period with good will, calm and cool heads."

Discusses Pacific Jaunt

Devoting part of her speech to discussion of her recent trip to the Southwest Pacific war zone, the President's wife said that colored soldiers there were "doing a splendid job." They were meeting every demand placed upon them, by building airports, driving supply trucks to the front lines, and manning anti-aircraft guns.

In hospitals colored and white soldiers lay side by side, receive the same treatment and are get along well together. She cited one instance in which doctors were loathe to release a colored patient from the hospital because he was a "source of cheer for everybody."

To indicate the changing attitude, Mrs. Roosevelt recalled an experience at a hotel taken over for members of submarine crews. Noting colored and white sailors breakfasting together, she asked a white sailor what he thought of this practice.

Only the Job Matters

On his boat everybody lived together, the sailor answered, and there was no question of color. "The only thing that matters is how you do your job, which may mean life or death to other members of the crew."

Others who spoke on the program were: Walter L. Wright, president of Lincoln University, who asserted that "there can be no security for any of us until there is freedom and opportunity for all"; Mrs. Ruby Hurley, NAACP youth director; Cornelius Jenkins, president of the Lincoln chapter of the NAACP; and Frank Wilson, dean of men at Lincoln.

Officers Elected

Secretary Gloria Morgan, 19-year-old sophomore at Wayne University, Detroit, was elected president at the closing session Sunday. She succeeds Otis Wells, Howard University medical student.

Other officers elected were:

Joseph Maxwell, of Johnson C. Smith University, first vice-president; Joseph Howard, of Howard University, second vice-president; Mattie B. Wesley, of Virginia Union University, secretary; and Miss Marian Harris of Hampton Institute, assistant secretary.

RESOLUTIONS

Conference resolutions called for: (1) immediate ending of discrimination in the armed forces;

(2) Freedom for Alton Levy, white sergeant who was stripped of his chevrons and sentenced to four months in prison because he spoke out against the treatment of colored soldiers; (3) "permanent and effective" organization of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee; (4) a barrage of protesting letters to newspapers not fair in treatment of news of colored Americans and to Hollywood movie directors when colored actors are not given respectable roles;

(5) Closer scrutiny of textbooks and organized demand for the removal of biased opinions; (6) impression upon adults of the importance of exercising the right of franchise, particularly in the South where, according to Dr. Luther P. Jackson, professor of history at Virginia State College, ninety per cent of the colored population does not vote because of unpaid poll taxes.

DEMOCRAT
Amsterdam Star-News
DEC 1943

The Watchtower

By Roy Wilkins

FDR and the Negro

Mr. Roosevelt is credited with being a smart politician. It has been said that he is the smartest in the country. That may or may not be true, but the fact remains that the only favorable actions Negroes have been able to get from the White House during the past eleven years have been forced out by hard-boiled political threats. Only when the White House has felt the "squeeze" has the White House acted on a Negro issue.



Mr. Wilkins

Always there has been Mrs. Roosevelt. She has done a noble work in behalf of the Negro and she has probably had more slurs and filthy criticism tossed at her about the Negro than about any other single activity of hers. But Mrs. Roosevelt is not the President. She can see and she can tell him what she sees, but only he can act. Up to the present moment he has acted only when Negroes have waved a club. They don't wave a club often because it takes them a long time to get together and fashion a political club big enough to get White House attention. Also, they have trouble picking out the right moment. With Franklin D. Roosevelt, you not only have to have a big club, but you have to wave it at the right moment.

White Advisers on the Negro

Right now Mr. Roosevelt's advisers have probably added, subtracted and sub-divided the results of the November 2 election. They have probably told him about every element in the country except the Negroes. Oh, they have told him about Negroes, but not the REAL dope. The people who advise Mr. Roosevelt on the Negro are all white. One of them is a white North Carolinian who is a nice enough chap, but who gets his political information on Negroes from interviews with Negro "leaders" in Washington. He needs to take a post-graduate course of at least six weeks on Chicago's South Side. Two weeks in Detroit's Paradise Valley would not hurt him, nor would a few weeks in Harlem.

It would be found, I believe, that the dark American is pretty well "fed up" with Mr. Roosevelt's silence and inaction on matters of the gravest concern to ten per cent of our population.

If the election were held within the next month it is fairly certain that the Negro vote would swing to the Republicans, mostly as protest against the failure of the President to stand up for a few simple things which Negroes more than deserve at the hands of their Chief Executive. Mr. Roosevelt has been so busy playing ball with the southern Democrats and appeasing the northern reactionaries that he has paid no attention to Negroes. Now, our people in the northern states are not a tremendous factor, but they are a very significant element. In a close election they can turn a half-dozen to a dozen key states into one column or another. Today they would turn those states into the GOP column. Why?

—And, Negroes Are 'Fed Up'!

Well, in the first place, they are sore as hell about the treatment of their men in the armed services. This comes high on the list because it strikes nearly every family, is highly emotional, and is so much at variance with the incessant talk about democracy. Had Mr. Roosevelt been as smart as they say he is, or had he had a different set of advisers, he could have said a few firm words, taken a few definite actions, and Negroes would have been in his corner. He could have abolished segregation in the services at the very least he could have ordered the activation of a volunteer mixed unit. He sat mum.

Then they are sore about jobs. They had to club FDR to get an executive order and FEPC, and they have had to club him ever since to keep it alive. They are getting some jobs, but grudgingly, and on the low levels.

Finally Negroes are sore about the whole Democratic pattern as it affects them. They cannot see that this terrible war means anything as far as they are concerned. They blame FDR for it, saying that if he can work up a lather about people 12,000 miles away, he ought to get up a mild sweat over loyal, hard-working Negroes here at home. Their general sentiment at the moment is "To hell with him, what have we got to lose?"

'Cotton Ed' Smith Backs Lynch Law and Sen. Byrd

By Elizabeth Donahue
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Sen. Ellison (Cotton Ed) Smith (D., S. C.), dean of the Senate, croaked at Northern supporters of Sen. Harry F. Byrd (D., Va.) to run for President under the banner of white supremacy.

Smith, drawing a capacity [illegible] soldiers' votes that "if some white people come down to my state I will help to lynch them."

The smile on the face of the beaming Virginian broadened at this compliment. Asked about it later, Byrd coyly replied:

"What man could turn down the honor if his party chose him for its nominee?"

he queried, "have lived in the midst of ungovernable lustful crowds and had their womenfolk [illegible]"

Smith's slurring remarks about President Roosevelt were acknowledged by some of his colleagues to be an unprecedented [illegible] of confidence in the Senate yesterday, outraged [illegible]

New York, N. Y. PM DEC 13 1943

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DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

good taste on the part of any Congressman.

Here is what Smith said:

"I have served during the terms of five Presidents and a sixth—or whatever that thing is we've got now."

The South Carolinian cheered for the poll tax and boasted that he had worked out a slogan: "Those who are fighting the poll tax are poll cats."

Spurred on by his hatred, he tossed in a vile anti-Negro ancedote which wound up in the words "the Negroes Outstink Hell."

Smith's speech is reported to have alarmed many of his Southern colleagues who had talked only whimsically of a party revolt as the upshot of the soldier's vote fight. Smith appears to have sung a feeble requiem to the move for a Southern reactionary party.

Meanwhile, the CIO's Political Action Committee, headed by Sidney Hillman, turned serious attention to getting a decent soldier's vote bill through the House. Hillman said: "The fight has just begun."

Hillman termed the issue of full voting rights for service men "the No. 1 issue on the list of all liberal and progressive forces in the U. S. A.

"The cynical and brutal action of the Senate must not be allowed to stand," Hillman declared. He asserted that "shock and resentment are rising all over the U. S. A. following the recent action taken in the Senate which left soldier's voting machinery in the hands of the states. He warned labor would make the vote question the chief issue in the '44 campaign if necessary.

President R. J. Thomas of the United Auto Workers, CIO, meanwhile warned that "Congress cannot afford to let this frame-up become law." He said that the Senators who opposed the Green-Lucas bill will suffer "well-deserved political oblivion" when the men in the armed services get home to vote.

Smith Not Seeking 3d Party, Just a 'Real' Democratic One

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Washington, 19 (U.P.)—Senator Ellison D. "Cotton Ed" Smith (D., S. C.) asserted tonight that his recent appeal for a resurgenge of the old Democratic Party was not a movement toward a third party but an effort to return the party to the "old Democratic fold."

He said that since his original appeal, also supported by Senators Bailey (D., N. C.) and Byrd (D., Va.), he had received a large amount of congratulatory mail from persons who wish to be included in any movement for separation of conservative elements from the New Deal faction.

"Tired of Being In the Bag."

"I know others have been trying to [illegible] this movement," he said, "but self-respect demands that we begin it. The Southern states have been kicked around long enough. Every bill that comes up in Congress is a criticism of the South.

"Apparently the New Deal thinks more of the Negro vote than it does of the white vote. I guess it thinks the white vote in the South is in the bag. Well, I'm tired of being in the bag."

Byrd was drawn into the picture when Smith proposed him as a possible presidential nominee of a separate conservative wing.

Smith said he had conferred informally with Bailey on plans to strengthen the movement, but that major developments were unlikely until convention time.

Based On Individuality

"When the convention meets we'll have something definite, you can be sure," he said.

He was insistent that the movement not be viewed as a drive for a new third party, but as an effort to return to the "old Democratic fold." "What we want is not a new party but a real honest-to-God Democratic Party based on the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and individuality," he said. "We need to get back to the old doctrine of getting together to deal fairly with all groups instead of a special few."

You Can't Be True To Two



Defender
Chicago, Ill.

DEC 26 1943

SOUTHERN BOLT IS HELD UNLIKELY

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

By VIRGINIUS DABNEY

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 25—Recent fierce interchanges on the Senate floor between Southern and Northern members have led to a revival of talk of splitting the Solid South in next year's Presidential election. Yet few practical politicians in this region feel that a split is in prospect, despite the undoubted hostility to the New Deal which exists in certain influential quarters below the Potomac. It seems much more likely that Southern delegates to the next Democratic National Convention will seek the nomination of Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates who are reasonably acceptable to the region, and will try to obtain larger Southern representation in future conventions, because of the South's long record of party regularity.

The effort of a group of business and professional men in New Orleans to start a Presidential boom for Senator Harry F. Byrd of Virginia, is expected to get nowhere. Headed by John U. Barr, rope manufacturer and vice president of the highly conservative and anti-Roosevelt Southern States Industrial Council of Nashville, the group includes few, if any, politicians. Persons who know politics are unable to understand how these men, who are undoubtedly sincere in their belief that Mr. Byrd is admirably qualified for the Presidency, expect to make any headway with their candidate.

In the first place, Senator Byrd is reliably reported by friends to be trying to discourage the efforts this group is making in his behalf. He is said to be aware of the movement's futility. He realizes that two courses are open to Mr. Barr and his associates. They can seek to organize a "Southern Democratic party," with Mr. Byrd as the nominee, and thus try to split the South with a third ticket, or they can try to line up support for the Senator as the regular candidate of the Democrats.

In either case, they have no appreciable hope of success.

But Many Democrats Point to Signs of Independence

Signs of Cleavage

The recent violent interchanges in the Senate between Senators Bailey of North Carolina and Byrd, on the one hand, and Senator Guffey of Pennsylvania, on the other, served to emphasize the wide sectional cleavage which exists in the Democratic party, and the bitterness seething beneath the surface. Obviously there are leading Southern Democrats who feel closer to certain Republicans than to some of the Northern members of their own party. But this does not mean that they are ready to bolt.

The consequences of such action are too serious. This is known only too well to Senator Bailey, for example. His entry into the Senate in 1931 was due to his successful race against Senator Furnifold M. Simmons, who had bolted Alfred E. Smith, the Democratic nominee, in the Presidential campaign of 1928. This one bolt made the veteran Senator Simmons a dead duck politically when Herbert Hoover, the man he supported, had carried North Carolina by a large majority. Bolting in the South usually means political suicide.

All this ferment in the region should, however, be conducive to attitudes of greater political independence in the future. More and more Southerners are reaching the conclusion that blind allegiance to any political party is a bad thing.

It will not do to assume that this trend is sufficiently pronounced, as yet, to affect the outcome in the election of 1944, except in a few border States, but the trend is manifest. Democratic majorities in most parts of the South have been so huge that they cannot be overturned except through a long process of gradual education.

The growing attitude of independence stems not only from irritation and exasperation on the part of certain Southern elements over the Roosevelt policies (chiefly those having to do with labor, poll taxes, sharecroppers, and the Negro), but also because thoughtful persons in this section have concluded that political solidarity is a bad thing anyway.

DEC 26 1943

New Deal Favors Negro Over White Vote: 'Cotton Ed'

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Senator "Cotton Ed" Smith, South Carolina, who recently delivered a vicious attack on President Roosevelt and the New Deal administration, this week declared that his appeal for the resurgence of the old Democratic party was not a movement toward a third party, but was an effort to return the party to the "old Democratic fold."

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"Apparently the New Deal thinks more of the Negro vote than it does of the white vote. I guess it thinks the South is in the bag. Well, I'm tired of being in the bag," the anti-New Dealer said.

He also said that every bill that comes up in Congress is a criticism of the Southern states and that the Southern states have been kicked around long enough. Major developments in the movement to separate the conservative elements of the Democratic party from the New Deal faction are expected until convention time, he added:

"When the convention meets we'll have something definite, you can be sure. In the meantime, I'm content to explore the situation and see where we stand."

DEC 25 1943

Now the Shoe's on the Other Foot:

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Tammany Gets Jitters As Harlem Voters Unite

Special

Now with Harlem safely past the registration hurdle, the stage is set to bring Tammany Hall to book for the high handed disregard with which Harlem has been sluffed off in the current campaign following the choice of candidates hardly acceptable to uptown voters. And the prospect of a united Harlem trek to the polls on election day has the cohorts of the wigwam, moving rapidly in circles with increasingly befuddled confusion.

The Tammany strategists met their first reversal in their blundering maneuver to hoodwink the electorate by endorsing Adam Clayton Powell, jr, for reelection to the City Council, although his candidacy for Congress had been announced publicly over a year ago. Naturally, the maneuver failed utterly in its purpose which was to cover up the fact that they were unwilling to put up a Negro to replace the incumbent.

VOTERS INCENSED

The net result has been a determined resolve on the part of the voters to hurl the insult back into the Sachems' faces by electing not one, but two men to the Council. These two candidates — both selected by the people in defiance of Tammany's attempt to dictate—are Ben Davis, jr, and Harold Ross, jr.

Even more important—and imperative—to the Harlem electorate is the election of Francis Ellis Rivers to the City Court bench. Tammany, with its customary disdain for the interest of the voters —and particularly the voters of Harlem—refused to designate this outstanding candidate for the high judicial post to which he has already been named by Governor Dewey. The Demos insisted on naming a party wheelhorse—Joe Higgins—to run for the post in spite of the fact Mr. Rivers had the unqualified endorsement of the bar associations and the designation of the Republican and Labor parties, not to mention his being admittedly the best available man in the field.

Now that the Democrats realize the voters are aware of what the real attitudes and intentions of the wigwam are, there is consternation as they scurry hither and yon to attempt to repair the rupture between them and the voters of Harlem.

The naming of Jimmy Johnson to the temporary post of Collector of Internal Revenue for the Third District. This was was resigned by Higgins to make the run for the City Court post.

Over in Brooklyn another people's victory seems imminent as the result of a united effort in behalf of Norman Johnson's candidacy for the Council from that borough. Party lines have disappeared as all parties and factions join hands to give Kings County its first Negro Councilman.

No wonder Tammany is on the run.

52d-1943

Southern and Northern Democrats are Far Apart

Washington, June 28. — The breach—and it is a real one—between Southern and Northern Democrats of Congress is increasing as frequent votes there clearly indicate. Two subjects, above all others, are involved: that of the tyranny of organized labor leaders and the demands of racial groups. The difference constantly cropping out become more marked day by day.

Southern members are not willing to have John L. Lewis, head of the miners union, or Walter White, big man in the Association for the Advancement of Colored People, put above their constituents; they do not object to well-conducted labor unions or fair treatment for negroes but more than that is sought.

The line-up in the House a few days ago on the Connally-Smith anti-strike bill shows the drift. Almost every Democratic member of the House from a Northern, Eastern or Western state where the negro voter holds the balance of power in close elections opposed that measure. Of the 100 Democrats who supported the Connally-Smith bill 95 were from Southern states, and others from them were paired for it. Just five from other states voted for it.

Congressmen from the South do not like to vote with Republicans. They know that the Republican party has not been fair to their section of the country, but they are determined to be independent on practices they have been used to for 75 or more years. The South has never submitted to political or other tyrants.

It looks very much as if John L. Lewis considers himself more powerful than President Roosevelt, the man who enabled him to get his power. It also begins to appear that the President is somewhat embarrassed by the behavior of his political ally.

Southern Democrats, by supporting the Connally-Smith bill, may have been instrumental in saving him from Lewis and other tyrants. They went to the aid of the administration while Northern favorites refused to help. Up to this time anti-strike proposals have been tabooed by New Dealers. "No, no," they said when other measures introduced by Rep. Howard W. Smith of Virginia were brought forward. The House passed a Smith bill more than a year ago but it was smothered in the Senate committee on Education and Labor at the instance of cabinet members and others in harmony with the views of the President. Today, there is some doubt as to whether or not the anti-strike bill, now on its way to the White House, will be approved.

There is little doubt here as to who spoiled Lewis—made him too large for his breeches—and who has fomented the race issue. But now, when Lewis is defying the War Labor Board—created for him and kindred bosses—Senator Wagner of New York, the President and others who gave Lewis rein, are disturbed. No one who knew Lewis well is surprised at his arrogance. Even Secretary Ickes, the appeaser, has not been able to understand, or handle him.

The Connally bill, given teeth by Rep. Smith, passed the House June 4 by a vote of 231 to 141, with 100 Democrats and 131 Republicans supporting, and 89 Democrats and 48 Republicans opposing it. The attitude of Southern Democrats indicates the opposition of their constituencies to the influence of Lewis in Washington.

"This business," said a well-known Southern member of the House to me, "is likely to break up the Democratic party in the South. The Democrats cannot go to the Republicans but they can become independent and hold the balance of power in close contests in Congress. I am worried about the situation there."

The man never opposed a New Deal request for legislation but now thinks seriously of withdrawing from the House of which he has been a member for more than 20 years.

Southern and Northern Democrats are as far apart on certain issues as members of the two old rival parties have ever been.

Here are interesting tell-tale figures: Of the nine Democrats in the House from Alabama six voted for the Connally-Smith bill, and the other three were paired for it.

Of the seven Arkansas Democrats six voted for the bill, and one against it.

Of the six Democrats from Florida, one voted for the bill, four were paired for it, and one opposed it.

Of the ten Democrats from Georgia seven voted for the bill, two were paired for it, and one opposed it.

Of the eight Democrats from Kentucky four voted for the bill, one was paired for it, and three opposed it.

Of the eight from Louisiana, six voted for the bill, and one was paired for it, and one opposed it.

Six of the seven Democrats of Mississippi voted for the bill, and one was paired for it.

Three of the five Missouri Democrated voted for the bill, and two were paired for it.

Ten of the twelve North Carolina Democrats voted for the bill, and one opposed it, and one was absent. Former Governor Cameron Morrison voted against it.

Five of the seven Oklahoma Democrats voted for the bill, and the other two were paired for it.

All of the South Carolina Democrats, except one, voted for it. Fulmer was paired with Rep. Weichel, Republican of Ohio. Messrs. Rivers, Hare, Bryson, Richards and McMillan voted for it.

Every member of the Tennessee delegation, eight Democrats and two Republicans, voted for the bill.

Seventeen of the 21 Texas Democrats voted for the bill, and three were paired for it; Speaker Rayburn did not vote.

Eight of the nine Virginia Democrats voted for the bill and one against it.

West Virginia has six members, three Democrats and three Republicans. One Democrat and two Republicans voted for the bill, and one Democrat and one Republican against it. One Democrat was paired against it.

Maryland has four Democrats and two Republicans in the House. Two Democrats supported the bill while the other two and the two Republicans voted in the negative.

New York has 23 Democrats and 20 of them opposed the bill. All three of the New Jersey Democrats voted against it. Mrs. Norton, a Frank Hague Democrat, is chairman of the House committee on education and labor, and a labor union sympathizer. The three Ohio Democrats opposed the bill, and so did the two from Indiana. The seven Illinois Democrats voted in the negative, so did the 14 Democrats from Pennsylvania. Michigan and Massachusetts Democrats voted against the bill.

The five Democrats that voted with the 95 Southerners to make up the 100 were Fernandez and Anderson of New Mexico, Elliott and Lea of California, and Harless of Arizona.

The anti-strike bill has gone back to the Senate for final touches, and Senator Connally, who introduced it, says it will be ready for the President's signature before John Lewis' coal strike limit, June 20th, is up.

Thomas L. Stokes, a Southerner by birth who writes features for The Washington News and other Scripps-Howard papers, has this to say about the anti-strike bill and its authors:

"This is the story of how Mr Smith of Virginia came to Washington and took the Republican party into camp.

"Mr. Smith is Rep. Howard W. Smith of Virginia, and he's a Democrat—that is, by party label. He is tall and gaunt and dour. He wears a gates-ajar collar.

"It's Mr. Smith who is largely responsible for the comprehensive labor-regulation bill just passed by the House, the Republicans fronted for it, their votes put it over, and it is their responsibility, politically.

"Some Republicans were doubtful today about its political efficacy, now that they had begun to wake up to just what happened in the House when the clever Mr. Smith took a simple bill of theirs, added to it, and made it something big.

"For it started out as their bill, and ended up as their bill, with Mr. Smith somehow coming in between. Republican votes put over the measure, which goes far beyond the Connally bill passed by the Senate. On final passage, 131 Republicans voted for it, along with 100 Democrats, mostly Southern colleagues of Mr. Smith; it was opposed by 89 Democrats, 48 Republicans and 4 of minority parties.

"The Smith touch disturbed some Republicans while the measure was before the House. Some who favored labor legislation finally voted against the bill in protest at the Smith alliance. For Rep. Smith is regarded by organized labor as its No. 1 enemy in Congress.

"Republican doubts about their strategy began to multiply as they considered their handiwork—and Mr. Smith's—in the calm following the storm of the last three days in the House, and with the let-down of tension after John L. Lewis' surrender. It was Mr. Lewis' defiant stand that had got the House so steamed up.

"Only a few days ago most Republicans were being noticeably cagey about labor legislation, which was interpreted as indicating a careful forward look toward next year's elections.

"Then there was a quick change of front.

"Just a few minutes before the House began to consider the committee bill for amendment, Rep. Harness (R., Ind.) came forward with a proposed substitute. He had borrowed two provisions from the elaborate committee bill—those providing for a 30-day 'cooling off' period before strikes could be called in war industries, and for a secret ballot by workers for strike action—and added a prohibition against political campaign contributions by labor organizations.

"This, it developed, was the result of a conference of party leaders the night before, in search of a Republican issue.

"Then Mr. Smith stepped into the picture. He lifted several of the controversial provisions from committee's bill—provisions ch it had lifted from his own famous Smith bill (which passed the House once before)—and offered them as a bulky amendment to the simple Harness substitute.

"Some Republican leaders were suspicious of this Virginian bearing gifts, and warned against tying up with him. But they were overruled, and so Mr. Smith took the Republican party into camp."

COMMENTS ON MEN & THINGS

July 4, '43

By Spectator

Is South Carolina a New Deal state? Is this state an enthusiastic supporter of President Roosevelt? Many politicians speak often of Mr. Roosevelt, but I met a citizen recently who said this to me: "You are a Baptist. Your church believes certain things. Well if your church were to fall into the hands of a controlling group, calling itself Baptist but disbelieving in Baptism and the New Testament, and having an out-door barbecue once a month instead of the Lord's Supper, would you think they were Baptists? Or, if they were real Baptists, what are you?" "Something like that happened to our Democratic Party."

Well, really—isn't the weather too hot to unravel that? Bishop Smoak of Colleton, a high priest among our Methodist brethren might throw some light on that. And there is that finest of gentlemen, and a stern warrior of the Cross, Brother Rice of Union. What sort of Baptist church would that be?

I hesitate to embroil "Deacon" Brunson of The Greenville News, though I suspect him of being a brother Baptist. I can't submit this to Doctor Ball because he, like President Roosevelt, is an Episcopalian, and perhaps they sit in the same pew in acclesiastical conferences. Such considerations might embarrass the good Doctor—though I hae mi doots that any consideration would stop the even and steady flow of his opinion.

Don't fool yourselves about the attitude of the man back home; whenever he hears the truth stated fully and clearly he will astonish some of the politicians. But by that time the politicians will be trying to convince us that they not only had smelled a rat for some time but that they had actually located the rat.

Oh, for a man, just a man, but a real man! Have we a real man, or must we send for Diogenes?

Rains have been so spotty, even in the same community, that one is tempted to ask whether the farmers whose corn has been

refreshed and revived had more rationing "points" than the favored farmers. has been said about rainfall or morning dew, er can tell what a bunch of reaucrats may do.

There are no venal men in our press; the papers are serving the public with different degrees of nothing else, as we know so well on the farm. This has lost control; his brakes won't day have to make work—or something. Some folk that will be likethink that the weatherman got wood. At least we off to such a late and slow start our informational that he is trying to make up for us the truth. lost time. Still, he needn't try to make the whole cotton crop in

South Carolina owes much to We have no finer public servants some of our editors and to our than those who give us the news, radio stations for courage and both through the papers and over the heat—which is true sense of public service. the radio. It is becoming increas-mon tonic of conv

have in August and September when we make hay?

Some time ago I referred to the publication by the Office of War Information on the Negro and his contribution to the war, etc. I admitted that such a publication by the colored people themselves would be proper as an expression of their pride of achievement. No one wishes to deny that. I had no intention to criticize anything but the obvious political slant of the Government's booklet and the misuse of money to curry political favor with the Negroes. In referring to the Washington political deal with the Negroes and with Organized Labor I always do so with some embarrassment for the Colored people of South Carolina and Organized Labor, as we have it here, are quite different from the politicalized Unionists and Negroes who play politics in Washington.

I've said that while heavy and learned preachments have been delivered urging us to forget politics and to concentrate on the war, the war itself is being used to build political fences of the New Deal. In a Negro paper I find a picture of three Negro lawyers in the Department of Justice, Washington, two of them members of the Attorney General's staff and the third being sworn in as a trial lawyer of the staff. So far as the picture in the Negro paper is concerned, surely no white man will object to that. But why should the Office of War Information take and circulate that picture? Yes, let's repeat the question, why does the United States Government take that picture? And why does the United States Government circulate it? Well, let's not be innocent; the reason is plain: somebody is "playing up" to the colored people. Who is it?

It may be unpleasant to contemplate the outcome of this, but our politicians and our people are growing farther apart. The very issue is likely to ditch somebody's apple cart.

The papers tell us that a lawyer from New York, addressing the congregation of Bethel A. M. E. church, Columbia, shouted "I might vote. I have before me a couldn't stand before a South colored paper which asks: "What Carolina audience and not request can be done at this late day?" that 'Cotton Ed' Smith be taken And then suggests many courses out of the Senate of the United of action. Here are some: States." Well, that may be his 1. The churches can lower their idea of a modest request. How color bar. little this man knows about South 2. The Supreme Court, now Carolina! There in the heat of supposedly liberal, can declare Washington sits "Cotton Ed" all State racial segregation laws praying that more lawyers for unconstitutional, thus null and the colored people will call for void. his defeat. No stronger appeal 3. The Government has ample for "Cotton Ed's" reelection will power to enforce these reforms be needed. as war measures.

What a lucky man "Cotton Ed" 4. Property owners' convenants ! Just when his defeat seems can be declared illegal and a certain, something, or somebody, turns up to turn the tide to him. As John Aull used to say, "Smith can't be beaten; if necessary an earthquake, a depression, a world war, or some other calamity or convulsion of nature, will count in Smith's favor!" And now comes this lawyer for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and makes a speech that is worth thousands of dollars to "Cotton Ed."

The purpose of Lawyer Marshall's visit to South Carolina is to arrange for a suit in the Federal court to compel the State of South Carolina to pay colored teachers the same salaries now paid to white teachers.

As Spectator has pointed out, the State does not operate the public schools; the schools are controlled by the counties or school districts; the State makes grants to help them. The State may make grants at its pleasure, just as the Federal government does. The Federal government, in spending public money, has paid—and is paying—unequal sums of money; and during the palmy days of the W. P. A. the Federal government paid higher daily wages to Italians in New York than to citizens of South Carolina.

But let's not submit meekly to any of this. This may be the political straw that will break the camel's back.

Northern Negro politicians are becoming more aggressive and assertive every day. I would prefer not to discuss the colored people because I do not wish to fan the flames of racial animosities. Our colored people will have to suffer the consequences of the campaign of the Northern Negroes who are inside the political ring and calling for favors. But white people need not think the Northern Negroes are content to stir up trouble up North; they are sending hundreds of thousands of leaflets, booklets, newspapers, etc., to every corner of the South in the effort to arouse our Southern colored people. It is no new thing; it has been going on for some time.

Recently one colored paper advocated sending colored troops to the South so that the Negroes might vote. I have before me a

heavy blow struck at the black ghettoes (colored sections in cities) which are ever expanding.

Most of us deplore all this, but we might as well know what is going on.

U. S. LABOR POLICY VEXES THE SOUTH

New York Times

That Is Chief Complaint There Against the New Deal, Gallup Poll Finds

JUL 7 1943

WASTE OF FUNDS IS NEXT

New York, N. Y.

Inefficiency and Red Tape Also Criticized by Voters, the Analysis Adds

These surveys are made by a system of highly selective samplings in proportion to voting populations; thereby, the American Institute of Public Opinion holds, is obtained a result which would not vary from that of a much larger canvass.

By GEORGE GALLUP
Director, American Institute of Public Opinion

PRINCETON, N. J., July 6—Whatever the political tides may be, the Democrats must have the backing of the solid South to win the election next year. Because of the vital importance of the South to the Roosevelt Administration politically, the institute during recent days has been conducting a survey among the people, as distinguished from the leaders, of thirteen Southern States to determine their attitudes on a number of current problems, including politics.

Of various possible Democratic candidates for President next year Mr. Roosevelt is the number one choice of Southern Democrats, as reported last week. That does not mean, however, that they like all the things he is doing.

One question put to Southerners in the institute's survey was this: "What do you like least about the Roosevelt Administration?"

The White House foreign policy came in for virtually no criticism; it is the handling of domestic affairs which Southern voters single out for blame.

Specifically, the three things they dislike most about the Roosevelt Administration are (1) what they consider the poor handling of labor, or "coddling of unions"; (2) waste and extravagance in the use of public funds; and (3) inefficiency in administration, or too much red tape and bureaucracy.

Although a number of Southern leaders have expressed resentment over the Roosevelt Administration's methods and attitudes in dealing with the Negro question, it is interesting to note that Southern voters put that topic relatively far down on their list of criticisms of the President.

One-third (33 per cent) of the Southerners interviewed in the survey had no criticism or no opinion to offer regarding the faults of the Administration. The chief criticisms offered by the rest are as follows:

Poor handling of labor unions.	22%
Extravagance, waste of public funds, paying people who don't work as hard as they should	11
Inefficiency, bureaucracy, red tape	11
Sponsoring too much equality of Negroes	5
Unfair treatment of Southern farmers	5
Stimulating liquor trade by repeal of prohibition	2
Failure to curb inflation	1
Too high taxes	1
Unpreparedness for war	1

JUL 7 1943

From a Colored paper I quote the following:

Augusta Herald & Chronicle July 22, 1943

"How the President feels on Negro problems is fairly clear—as may be seen from his frank hour's discussion with Negro church leaders recently. He wants the poll tax abolished. He wants full use of Negro manpower. He wants Negro officers in the Navy. He wants effective punishment for lynching, although he has his doubt as to whether an anti-lynching law can be passed and whether it is in fact the best way to solve the problem. The frankness with which he met every issue raised by the Negro clergyman left them almost speechless with joy. As Bishop R. R. Wright put it: "We have just talked with the greatest citizen of the world"."

"Time was, of course, when Negroes had a fairly good direct trunk line to the President's ear: Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. That time has not completely passed, but two drawbacks exist First of all, Mrs. Roosevelt has no direct responsibility in the federal government and cannot, therefore, have the same effect as an adviser who has. Then again, the constant attacks upon her by the fanatic poll-tax bloc in Congress and by the Southern press, has had the effect of reducing the effectiveness of her advocacy of the Negro cause."

Negro to Speak Here In Loyalty Campaign

John Henry Adams, Jacksonville Negro, who began a loyalty-to-Roosevelt campaign three years ago and has covered eight states in a speaking tour in behalf of the president, arrived in Macon yesterday to arrange a speaking date here. **Macon, Ga., Telegraph**

Adams announced that he will speak Sunday to the Negro population of the city, although the time and place has not been set. The Jacksonville Negro is former head of the art department of Morris Brown University. From Macon, he will continue his tour to Savannah. October 20, 1943

The non-political campaign tour began in Jacksonville and has carried the Negro to principal cities in the South, where he has talked to Negro audiences.

Boycotting of Byrnes

Charleston, S. C. News Courier

Of publications of the American negroes "The Crisis", monthly magazine, is most representative of their "intellectuals", and on that account the following editorial from its issue of October 1943 will be interesting and informing to readers of The News and Courier:

October 25, 1943

"Negro voters, looking toward 1944, may not have made up their minds on Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Willkie, Mr. Dewey, Mr. Bricker, Mr. Wallace and some others, but it is a sure bet that they will not go along with Mr. Hull, of Tennessee, Mr. Rayburn, of Texas, or Mr. Byrnes, of South Carolina, especially Mr. Byrnes".

Southern "Democratic" leaders are especially objectionable to spokesmen of the Northern negroes. Mr. Byrnes, in the senate, stoutly opposed anti-Southern bills and had an active part in the filibuster against one of them in January, 1938, when he said, "The negroes are now in control of the Democratic party".

Through most of the year 1938 Senator Byrnes was in opposition to Roosevelt measures and was domiciled in the anti-Roosevelt reservation along with Senator Smith. He suppported Mr. Smith for reelection in 1938 and was frequently under gas attack by extremists of the Roosevelt press. Late in 1938 he forgave President Roosevelt and since then their relations have been affectionate.

The Northern negroes and their white partners of the true New Dealers are implacable in disposition toward Mr. Byrnes. He is under a boycott for vice president or other elective office, except in South Carolina.

The hatred that inspired the paragraph in "The Crisis" is creditable to Mr. Byrnes and on that account is reproduced. No matter how great the service to his country of Mr. Byrnes as "assistant president", he would remain under the ban of the New Dealers, and President Roosevelt would not dare to break with his colored allies by approving him as a candidate for vice president.

Conway's Courier July 15, 1943

POLICY OF NEW DEAL GROWING MUCH WORSE

One Correspondent Writes As He Sees the Situation In Washington

SOME ARE AFRAID TO TALK

General Run May Not Understand Facts As They Are Here Pictured

Some are thinking that the general run of the people are unaware of the extent to which certain things have gone in Washington.

Most of us may rest assured that the truth may be only half told.

In Washington the newspaper reporters are charged with misrepresenting facts, spreading rumors conveying propaganda at the behest of political interests perhaps and generally creating trouble.

The President of these United States has said this much himself.

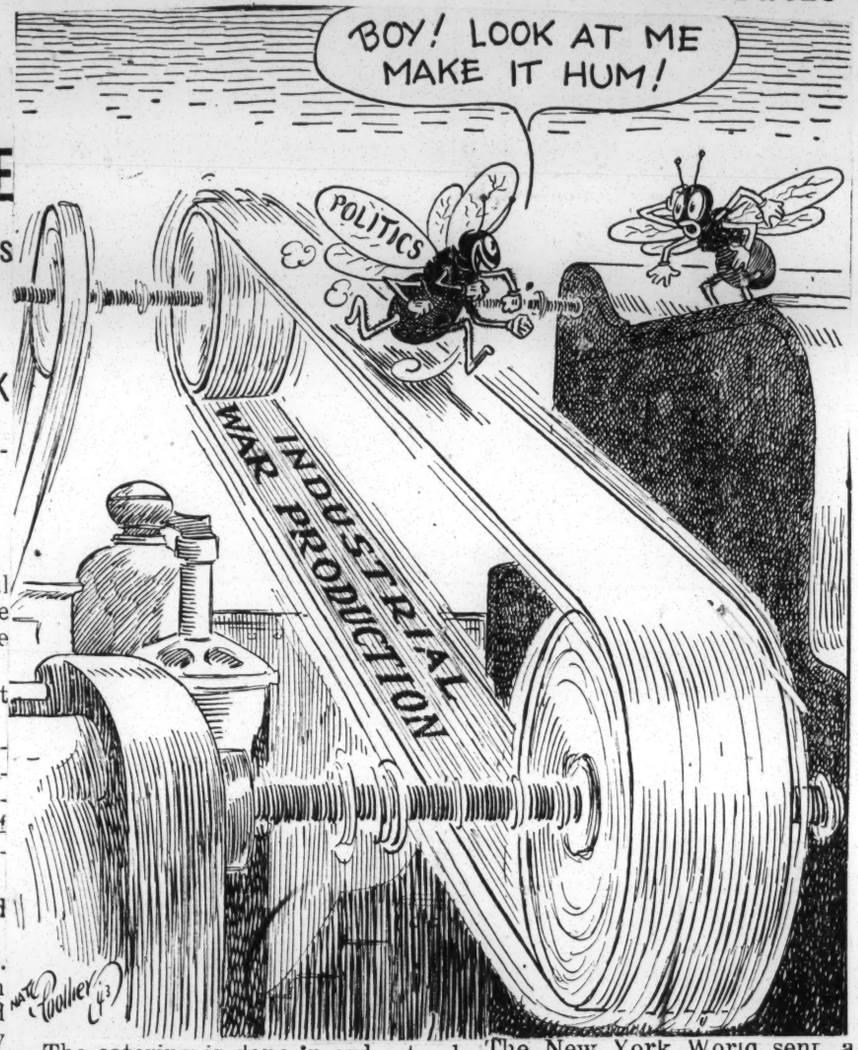
The other day Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt advised "scotching" certain rumors that had come out and advised that they hereafter be "scotched" by both white and colored, upon which she says depends our good relations in this country. Therefore, the general run of readers may understand that the newspaper reporters are charged with having committed such terrible acts and that they should suppress their real feelings and thoughts in sending out their news.

Evidently it is not all of the newspaper writers that are afraid of the President because at the present time we have freedom of the press to the full extent guaranteed to the newspapers by the Constitution of this country.

Things have certainly come to pass that show a tendency on the part of the new deal administration to control the newspapers if they can by various and sundry moves they expect to make under the exercise of war conditions.

There was handed the other day to the Editor of the Herald by a prominent citizen, who had received it from a reliable source, some extracts from a letter written by a prominent newspaper correspondent in Washington, D. C.

The correspondent who sent this out has the courage of his convictions, and going to Washington from the South he has a peculiar understanding of the situation as it is now beginning to be in reference to this new deal administration that has throughout its entire ten years of experience catered to the labor union class and the colored class.



The catering is done in order to obtain votes and the classes at whom the catering is directed may find in the long run that politics was at the bottom of all that was done and they may be disappointed more than they ever were in their lives.

The Herald copies extracts from the letter of the correspondent for whatever they may be worth to the readers of the Horry Herald:

If the following paragraphs taken from the letter strike you as being too broad or perhaps false, just sit down and think back and turn over in your mind certain things you know have happened within the last five to ten years and you will no doubt have a better opinion of these extracts—that is as to their probable truth in respect to the present time.

The extracts follow:

"The truth is some are afraid the South is so ignorant of the real conditions the New Deal administration has created that it is doubtful if the truth would be tolerated. However, some of these days it will wake up. If you really want to know what is going on subscribe for the Pittsburg (Pa.) Courier or the Washington Afro-American, Negro paper, and your eyes will be opened. While the King plays the labor racket the Queen plays the Negro game.

"To understand what is now happening one must go back to the time of the great Negro migration to the North, East and West, which commenced during the first World war. The New York World sent a correspondent to the South and West in 1920 to see why the Negroes were moving and after that to the North to see what they were doing in their new homes. In one of the stories from the Middle West, it was said that within a few years the Negro voter would hold the balance of power in eight states. At that time he was voting with the Republicans. In 1932, he turned to the Democrats and has been voting with them ever since.

"Here are a few vital figures: More than 3,000,000 Negroes left the South for other sections, going as far west as California and as far North as Massachusetts. The labor vice president of the Erie Railroad was the first to take them from the South. He took a train load from Florida to New York, housed them in box cars and fed them in mess halls. They were to take the place of reservists who had been called home to fight for the Allies. They worked as section, platform and loading and unloading hands. The Pennsylvania and Illinois Central and other roads followed the example of the Erie.

"Now the Negro voter holds the balance of power in close elections in 20 states. There are 325,000 Negro voters in the states of New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois, and 300,000 in Ohio, 10,000 in the City of Detroit, and so on and out to the West Coast. California has 100,000 Negro voters. The Democratic leaders of the North would rather have the Negro vote of the big States than the entire Southern States of the old Confederate group. The Roosevelts have captured the Negro by putting him on an equality with the white in Federal jobs. In the WPB, the OPA and other defense units in Washington, Negroes and whites eat together, use the same water closets, washrooms, and so forth. This can be seen going on every day.

"Now, with the Negro and the CIO voters linked together the New Deal cares very little about the Solid South. You cannot blame the Negro for feeling his importance and using his power. But the South will suffer unless it turns about and becomes independent and holds the balance of power. The Republicans are now courting the Negro voter for the next election. I saw a picture of Willkie lighting a cigarette for a high yellow girl. He is hot-footing it for the colored vote. Northern, Western and Eastern Senators, Democrats and Republicans are afraid of the Negro vote. If the anti-lynching bill ever comes to a vote on the floor of the Senate, 73 of the 96 Senators will vote for it although they know it would be unconstitutional if enacted. The Negroes are well organized under Walter White of the Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"White papers pay very little attention to negro news. I saw nine pictures of Mrs. Roosevelt in one issue of a Negro paper. The negro papers quote her frequently. It is said here that she would swim Potomac river to attend a Negro meeting and speak.

"Recently a North Carolina girl stood examination for a stenographer's job and received a call to show up in Washington at once. She came, got the job, and found that a North Carolina Negro girl was one of her superiors and could dictate to her. This is not an isolated case.

"Our old friends Simmons and Aycock and Ben Tillman and others were wrong or the New Deal is.

"The group of independent Southerners in Congress is growing, and becoming powerful. Someone could keep tab on that movement, using names and statements, to encourage Southern people to take a greater interest in the effort to make them the forgotten people. Old Ed Smith may be rabid at times, but he sees the trend of things here. So does Representative Smith of Virginia, who fights John Lewis and Bill Green while others cajole them."

Little Suspected Advisers Inspire FDR's Decisions

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

WASHINGTON, July 8—It is time that Negro America begin to pay close attention to the people behind the close to President Roosevelt because, upon these individuals—most of whom never make a newspaper headline—depend decisions of vital concern to every Negro in America. The significance of this state-

FEPC. The big tussle of the behind-the-scenes brain trusters was over the question of whether to give the new FEPC committee power to enforce its decisions. Several days ago the President's ear: Several prepared in the time has not completely passed. War Manpower Commission and but two drawbacks exist. First the Department of Justice. Formal of all, Mrs. Roosevelt has no direct responsibility in the delegations of Negro organizations government and cannot, therefore, called upon Fowler Harper, then have the same effect as an ad- Paul V. McNutt's deputy in the viser who has. Then again, the lations board. Other individuals, they thought would have the final who had a slight hint that maybe say. They urged giving FEPC the Attorney General Biddle would power to subpoena witnesses as have something to say about the was given the National Labor Re- order, called on him and received assurances that a strong and effective order would be issued.

NO DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY

Time was, of course, when Negroes had a fairly good direct line to the President's wife. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. That time has not completely passed. First of all, Mrs. Roosevelt has no direct responsibility in the federal government and cannot, therefore, have the same effect as an ad- viser who has. Then again, the President's wife is almost wholly consumed with problems of actual military strategy on a global scale and with the intricacies of United Nations' foreign policy.

PRESIDENT'S FRANKNESS REASSURING

How the President feels on Negro problems is fairly clear—as may be seen from his frank hour's discussion with three leaders recently. He received a poll tax abolished. Mr. Roosevelt had not dis- cussed Negro problems face to face with a Negro delegation for nearly two years.

DELEGATED AUTHORITY

The simple fact is that, given peacetime, the President overwhelmed with vitally important affairs of state that he had to delegate to men in whom he had confidence, many special problems. In wartime, his time is almost wholly consumed with problems of actual military strategy on a global scale and with the intricacies of United Nations' foreign policy.

HOW ADVISERS WORK

If you want a good example of how the anonymous advisers to the President can gum up the works, insofar as Negroes are concerned, you may take the most recent executive order of Mr. Roosevelt's re-establishing FEPC. The fact is that the order as drafted did contain powerful sanctions similar to those of the Na-

THINK IMPORTANT

But how Presidential advisers feel about these problems and how they are frequently language of the—"a horse of a different color." And in obscure corners—as the information sift it, analyze it and send in those two page memoranda—with recommendations upon which the President acts. These advisers are hard to identify because they are frequently concerned, you may take the most important—almost—speechless with joy. "We talked with the greatest man in the world."

onal Labor Relations board. But then the order went to persons whom the Negro organizations never thought of suggesting; to persons in the bureau of the budget. It was there—before it reached the President's desk—that the teeth were taken out of the new FEPC order.

Few people know that Biddle has emerged as the administration's strong man on Negro problems. Indeed, the attorney general would be the first to deny it. But here is the record: All reports of investigations by the Inspector General of the United States Army on violences against Negro troops which require federal prosecution go to Biddle. All investigations of lynchings, riots and other deprivations of the civil rights of Negroes go to Biddle.

Biddle was formerly a member of the National Relations board. Another member of that board was Monsignor Francis Joseph Haas. A staff member of that board was Malcolm Ross. Another staff member was William Maslow. In the new FEPC set up Haas is chairman, Ross is secretary, and Maslow will be in charge of all operations of the committee. It was the attorney general who influenced the President to give Dorie Miller the Navy Cross—over the head of and much to the surprise of Secretary Frank Knox.

DICKERSON'S CASE

You may put it down as gospel that the reason the new FEPC committee has come out as a three employer- three labor representative affair was because of the impression abroad in Department of Justice circles that Earl B. Dickerson, most militant of the old board members, was not "judicious."

Somewhere between David Niles, administrative assistant to the President, and the attorney general rests responsibility for the failure of the Administration to give a helping hand in passing the anti-poll tax bill.

PUT QUIETUS ON ISSUE

Faced with responsibility for maintaining harmonious relations between the President and the poll-tax Democrats in his own party, the advisers soft-pedaled the anti-poll tax issue.

The Department of Justice has soft-pedaled the issue of the "lily-white primaries" also. In South Carolina, the primary law is so framed (in its clauses excluding Negroes from voting in the Democratic primary) that federal prosecution would almost certainly lead to the conviction of certain election officials. The Department of Justice has known this set of facts for some time. So have the Democratic leaders of South Carolina. In fact the papers of that state have been filled with stories of pending federal prosecution. Butt he Department of Justice has not acted.

ROTNEM POTENT FIGURE, TOO

Nor has the Department of Justice used its full powers in many cases involving the murder of Negro soldiers. It investigates. It sometimes indicts. It has yet to convict. It has yet to send a criminal to jail for murdering a Negro soldier, lynching a Negro, or depriving a Negro of his basic citizenship rights.

And the man who advises Biddle when to move and on what to move in the civil liberties field is Victor Rotnem, chief of the Civil Liberties unity. It will be Rotnem and other advisers of the attorney general who will spell out just what the Federal government will do in the Detroit and Beaumont riots.

It will be Jonathan Daniels, another administrative assistant to the President, who will make the recommendations as to whether Roosevelt will make a fireside chat on the whole subject of anti-Negro riots.

HAAS HAS POWER, TOO

You may add to this list Father Haas, Dr. Will Alexander, of the Rosenwald Foundation, at times, Frank P. Graham, and you will have a pretty good idea of some of the principal influences on the President's Negro policy.

The striking fact is that no Negro—with the possible exception of Mary McLeod Bethune—is close enough to the President to shape his policy, and that although it is certain he will soon discuss the question of the Detroit and Beaumont riots with a small group of his advisers, Negro leaders like Mordecai W. Johnson, Walter White, William H. Hastie, F. D. Patterson and others will not be there.

Good or bad—and they are not always bad—the policies affecting Negroes are shaped by men whose past experiences with Negro problems has been spotty to say the least.

NEGRO NEWSPAPER INFLUENCED SWITCH OF VOTES FROM THE G. O. P. TO NEW DEAL PARTY

Greenville, S. C., Observer
October 15, 1943

By H. E. C. BRYANT

Washington, Oct. 7.—If one should become interested sufficiently to learn the cause of the nation-wide change of attitude toward the Negro race he or she could get a very good clue by reading the papers owned and edited by leading colored citizens. Within the last 25 years there has sprung up in large Northern cities many very creditable weeklies published exclusively for Negroes. One of them, the Pittsburgh Courier, founded by Robert Vann, who was born in Bertie county, North Carolina, was instrumental in transferring the colored vote from the Republican party, to which it had been loyal for decades, to Democrats.

Vann did not like Herbert Hoover and frankly said so. In 1932, when it became a question of Roosevelt, the Democrat, or Hoover, the Republican, Vann supported the former, and urged his people to do so and they did to the disaster of their old associates. President Roosevelt appreciated Vann's efforts in his behalf and gave him an important assignment in the Department of Justice which he held for a short time before resigning to return to Pittsburgh to look after his private law practice and his newspaper. Vann continued loyal to the President but refused to support Democrats on state tickets, and, thereby, aiding the Republicans of Pennsylvania to elect their candidate for Governor. Two years ago Vann died. But his paper is still in able hands. It is said by friends of Vann that he made close to a million dollars out of it. Today it is prosperous, and influential throughout the colored population in Washington, New York and many other cities. It has approximately 200,000 subscribers and many more readers.

In its issue of September 25, it had an editorial on "New Political Power" which reads:

"One of the by-products of the increasing migration of the colored people from the South to the North, East and West will be the added importance of the Negro vote.

"The Negro population of California has increased tremendously in the past two or three years, as it has generally on the Pacific Coast, and in the industrial centers throughout the country there are tens of thousands more colored people than there were before Pearl Harbor.

"This means that the Negro is politically more important now than he was on the eve of the 1940 election, and is a factor greatly to be reckoned with in all calculations on the outcome of the 1944 elections.

"This is reflected in the appointment last week of Assistant District Attorney Francis E. Rivers of New York City to be City Judge at a salary of $17,500 a year.

"In the contest for this lucrative post in the 1943 election, the Democrats will also have to nominate a Negro or the Republican Rivers will march off with the bulk of the Negro vote, which would augur ill for the chances of the administration forces in the key Empire State in 1944. The situation is similar in several other cities where the Negro population has increased greatly.

"There has also been a great increase in Negro urban population in the South where war industries have been established, and if these people will register and pay poll taxes, they can vote in numerous cities and greatly influence the elections.

"The colored people are particularly alert at this time and as a group are perhaps more politically conscious than the average whites because they really have something to struggle for—full citizenship rights and opportunities.

"It is as much our duty to qualify to vote, and to vote, as it is to pay income taxes. Now that we have more voting power, let's use it."

Running back over the issues of the Congressional Record for the last ten or more years one will see just where the Negro vote has become important; roll calls on matters of interest to the race show trends that are unmistakable. Wherever the Negro holds the balance of power at the ballot box his support is sought by all candidates. Even in the South here are definite signs of greater consideration of the Negro as a voter. It is reported here that a popular Southern Governor is pardoning colored prisoners at a rapid rate in hopes that it will help him get an appointment to the Federal bench—a life-time job.

The House showdown on the poll tax bill makes clear the desire of members of Congress from districts in the North, East and West are eager to please Negro constituents.

The Pittsburgh Courier editorial urging Negroes to take advantage of their new position is based on sound reasoning. The appointment of Rivers to the New York City Court is a striking case of what can and is being done.

F. D. R. ANSWERS URBAN LEAGUE

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

TO THE EDITOR: This is the full text of a letter from President Roosevelt to Lester B. Granger, Executive Secretary of the National Urban League, on the occasion of the League's annual conference in Chicago, September 28 to October 2, 1943.

My Dear Mr Granger:

I am gratified to extend greetings to the National Urban League for Social Service Service Among Negroes on the occasion of its annual conference in Chicago. I note with approval that the Governor of Illinois and the Mayor of Chicago—in keeping with the theme of your meeting—have issued proclamations designating your conference period as "Victory Through Unity Week."

It is fitting that the National Urban League should seek to impress upon our Nation the fact that Negro and white Americans must cooperate effectively in winning the war, and in developing harmonous peace-time living as a foundation of lasting American democracy. The integrity of our Nation and our war aims is at stake in our attitude towards minority groups at home.

Men of all races—black, brown, white and yellow—fight beside us for freedom. We cannot stand before the world as a champion of oppressed peoples unless we practice as well as preach the principles of democracy for all men. Racial conflicts diminish war production, cuts down the flow of guns and planes and increases the toll of American lives. Racial strife destroys national unity at home and renders us suspect abroad.

Our is a two-fold responsibility. All true Americans must be prepared to protect with life itself the inalienable rights of all men, with regard to race, creed or color. All true Americans also must increasingly accept the responsibilities that go with democratic privileges.

The National Urban League has accepted this challenge. Your organization, in welding together in this cause men of good will of all races in America, contributes to the national unity and the deepening of the concept of democracy.

Very sincerely yours,
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

52d-1943
Lawrens, S. C., Advertiser
June 24 1943

SMITH DENIES S. C. DEMOS REFUSE FUNDS

Says Report State Committee Refused to Contribute to the 1944 National Campaign "Untrue"

Columbia, June 16.—Winchester Smith of Barnwell county, chairman of the State Democratic Executive committee, said today reports that South Carolina had refused to contribute to the support of the 1944 National Democratic campaign were "wholly untrue."

Smith said that in "the first place, I haven't written any letter to the National Executive committee in regard to financial support for the campaign," and second that it also was "untrue" that a meeting of the Democratic Executive committee had been held. He explained that several members of the committee "got together" after a request for funds had been received but that the meeting was "neither formal nor informal."

"I am going to write a letter to the National Executive committee probably today or sometime this week," Smith said.

No Letter by Secretary

J. M. Smith, secretary of the Executive committee, who normally would handle a letter to the National committee, said none had been written and that so far as he knew there had been no refusal to contribute to national funds.

Senator Edgar A. Brown of Barnwell county, a member of the State Executive committee, said "Sure, some of the boys got together to advise with Win Smith but there was no formal or informal meeting of the Democratic Executive committee."

Brown said the committee was "not going to refuse to contribute to the National Democratic campaign" but that probably available funds in the party treasury would be contributed. He added that because this would be an "off year" in South Carolina elections he doubted whether any "enthusiasm" could be worked up to conduct a statewide campaign to raise funds for the national campaign.

Asked if there were any resentment on the part of the committee because of apparent efforts by the National committee to "woo the Negro vote at the expense of Southern feelings," Brown said, "Sure we resent it, but that isn't going to keep up from contributing to the national fund."

Reported by Spartan Paper

Spartanburg, June 16. — The Spartanburg Herald said today the South Carolina Democratic Executive committee had unanimously refused a request of the National Executive committee for financial support in the 1944 National Democratic campaign.

Disagreement of the state committee with the national policies of the party was the basis for refusal to contribute to the 1944 party war chest, the Herald said. The newspaper, quoting state committeemen it did not name, said the chief reason for the dissension was the resentment of the South Carolina unit of apparent efforts of the national committee "to woo the Negro vote at the expense of Southern feelings."

The state committee based its refusal on two reasons, the Herald said it was informed. They were (1) that the unit's treasury was in no position to contribute funds to the national campaign, and (2) that even if it were, the committee would still refuse a contribution because it did not "see eye to eye with the national committee on matters of policy."

Sumter, S. C. Daily Item
June 26, 1943

• Comments On Men And Things

BY SPECTATOR

Is South Carolina a New Deal State? Is this state an enthusiastic supporter of President Roosevelt? Many politicians speak often of Democratic

Mr. Roosevelt, but I met a citizen recently who said this to me: "You are a Baptist. Your church believes certain things. Well if your church were to fall into the hands of a controlling group, calling itself Baptist but disbelieving in Baptism and the New Testament, and having an out-door barbecue once-a-month instead of the Lord's Supper, would you think they were Baptists? Or, if they are real Baptists, what are you?" "Something like that happened to our Democratic Party?"

Well, really—isn't the weather too hot to unravel that? Bishop Smoak of Colleton, a high priest among our Methodest brethern, might throw some light on that. And there is that finest of gentlemen, and a stern warrior of the Cross, Brother Rice of Union. What sort of Baptist Church would thatbe?

I hesitate to embroil "Deacon" Brunson of The Greenville News, though I suspect him of being a brother Baptist. I can't submit this to Doctor Ball because he, like President Roosevelt, is an Episcopalian, and perhaps they sit in the same pew in ecclesiastical conferences. Such considerations might embarrass the good Doctor—though I hae mi doots that any consideration would stop the even and steady flow of his opinions.

Don't fool yourselves about the attitude of the man back home; whenever he hears the truth stated fully and clearly he will astonish some of the politicians. But by that time the politicians will be trying to convince us that they not only had smelled a rat for some time but they had actually located the rat.

Oh, for a man, just a man, but a real man! Have we a real man, or must we send for Diogenes?

South Carolina owes much to some of our editors and to our radio stations for courage and a true sense of public service. There are no venal men in our press; the papers are serving the public with different degrees of fighting spirit but under enormous difficulties—and without much of the golden stream which the statisticians tell is flowing to every man, woman and child.

We have no finer public servants than those who give us the news, both through the papers and oyer the radio. It is becoming increasingly difficult to get out a paper—or to do anything else, as we know so well on the farm. This state may some day have to make some choices that will be like gall and wormwood. At least we can depend on our informational sources to give us the truth.

Some time ago I referred to the publication by the Office of War Information on the Negro and his contribution to the war, etc. I admitted that such a publication by the colored people themselves would be proper as an expression of their pride of achievement. No one wishes to deny that. I had no intention to criticize anything but the obvious political slant of the government's booklet and the misuse of public money to curry political favor with the negroes. In referring to the Washington political deal with the negroes and with Organized Labor I always do so with some embarrassment for the colored people of South Carolina and organized labor, as we have it here, are quite different from the politicalized unionists and negroes who play politics in Washington.

I've said that while heavy and learned preachments have been delivered urging us to forget politics and to concentrate on the war, the war itself is being used to build the political fences of the New Deal. In a negro paper I find a picture of three negro lawyers in the Department of Justice, Washington, two of them members of the attorney general's staff and the third sworn in as a trial lawyer of the staff. So far as the picture in the negro paper is concerned, surely no white man will object to that. But why should the Office of War Information take and circulate that picture? Yes, let's repeat the question, WHY does the United States fovernment take that picture? And why does the United States government circulate it? Well, let's not be innocent; the reason is plain: somebody is "playing up" o the colored people. Who is it?

It may be unpleasant to contemplate the outcome of this, but our politicians and our people are growing farther apart. This very issue is likely to ditch somebody's apple cart.

The papers tell us that a lawyer from New York addressing the congregation of Bethel A. M. E. church, Columbia, shouted "I couldn't stand before a South Carolina audience and not request that "Cotton Ed" Smith be taken out of the Senate of the United Stats." Well, that may be his idea of a modest request. How little this man knows about South Carolina! There in the heat of Washing sits "Cotton Ed," praying that more lawyers for the colored people will call for his defeat. No stronger appeal for "Cotton Ed's" re-election will be needed.

What a lucky man "Cotton Ed" is! Just when his defeat seems certain something, or somebody, turns up to turn the tide to him. As John Aull used to say, "Smith can't be beaten; if necessary an earthquake, a depression, a world war, or some other calamity or convulsion of nature, will count in Smith's favor! And now comes this lawyer for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and makes a speech that is worth thousands of dollars to "Cotton Ed."

The purpose of lawyer Marshall's visit to South Carolina is to arrange for a suit in the federal court to compel the state of South Carolina to pay colored teachers the same salaries now paid to white teachers.

As Spectator has pointed out, the state does not operate the publiq schools; the schools are controlled by the counties or school districts, the state makes grants to help them. The state may make grants at its pleasure, just as the federal government does. The federal government, in spending public money, has paid—and is paying—unusual sums of money; and during the balmy days of the W. P. A. the federal government paid higher daily wages to Italians in New York than to citizens of South Carolina.

But let's not submit meekly to any of this. This may be the political straw that will break the camel's back.

Northern negro politicians are becoming more aggressive and assertive every day. I would prefer to not discuss the colored people because I do not wish to fan the flames of racial animosities. Our colored people will have to suffer the consequences of the campaign of the northern negroes who are inside the political ring and calling for favors. But white people need not think the northern negroes are content to stir up trouble up north; they are sending hundreds of thousands of leaflets, booklets, newspapers, etc. to every corner of the South in the effort to arouse our souhtern colored people. It is no new thing; has been going on for some time.

Recently one colored paper advocated sending colored troops to the south so that the negroes might vote. I have before be a colored paper which asks: "What can be done at this late day?" And then suggests many courses of action.

Here are some:

1. The churches can lower their color bar . . .

2. The supreme court, now supposedly liberal, can declare all state racial segregation laws unconstitutional, thus null and void.

3. The government has ample power to enforce these reforms as war measures.

4. Property owners' covenants can be declared illegal, and a heavy blow struck at the black ghettoes (colored sections in cities) which are ever expanding."

Most of us deplore all this, but is the national spotlight about a year ago because of his efforts to organize a "League for the Preservation of White Supremacy," is planning to run for delegate-at-large from Alabama to the national Democratic convention, it was announced here Wednesday.

Judge Wilkinson was tacked the NAACP and the Negro racial segregation and "government." After a political setback in 1938. Judge Wilkinson vigorously attacked the NAACP and the Negro press, calling on his Kiwanis club about a year ago, previously that he was the Ku Klux Klan.

Wilkinson plans to base his campaign on a platform of "anti-bureaucracy," as a counter movement. He hearers to form the Preservation of White Supremacy and liberal press before the Bessemer politics."

Wilkinson To Run For Democratic Convention Post

Defender
—Chicago, Ill.

BIRMINGHAM. — (ANP)—Judge Horace C. Wilkinson, who was in

Mullings, S. C., Enterprise
June 24, 1943

N. Y. Lawyer Asks Smith's Removal

Columbia.—A "request" that Senator Ellison D. "Cotton Ed" Smith, Democrat, South Carolina, "be taken out of the senate of the United States" was voiced last night by Thurgood Marshall of New York, chief counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Marshall, here to lead legal action seeking equal salaries for South Carolina's white and negro school teachers, was critical of Senator Smith before a Bethel A.M.E. church audience.

"I couldn't stand before a South Carolina audience and not request that "Cotton Ed" Smith be taken out of the senate of the United States," he shouted.

Marshall said claims that negroes had been denied the right to vote in this state had been turned over to the federal bureau of investigation. Action in the teachers' salary suit will be filed in federal district court here within a month, he declared.

Reports are being circulated that the South Carolina Democratic Executive Committee has refused to contribute to the national party because, it is said, the funds will be used by the national party 'to woo the negro vote,' contrary to prevailing opinion and the spirit existing in the southern states. It is reported that Georgia's State Executive Committee has also refused to respond to the national call for party funds upon the same grounds.

The statement made by the New York lawyer was probably provoked by the following public expressions of South Carolina's U. S. senators:

Before receiving news of Chairman Winchester Smith's denial that the state Democratic executive committee had refused to contribute to the national party, The News and Courier telegraphed Senators E. D. Smith and Burnet R. Maybank in Washington, asking them to comment on the reported "revolt."

Their replies follow:

Senator Smith—"In response to your telegram will say that if The Associated Press reports are true, I congratulate the South Carolina Democratic executive committee on their stand not to contribute financial aid to a policy which is obviously contrary to the spirit and historical background of South Carolina Democracy."

Senator Maybank— "Understand statement has been denied. Of course it is my opinion that there will be no revolt of Democrats in South Carolina against the Democratic party. The people of South Carolina are 100 per cent back of President Roosevelt in the war effort and his foreign policies.

"Naturally there are matters in which the people of South Carolina do not see eye to eye with the administration but there are these matters in every administration. Insofar as seeing eye to eye with the national committee is concerned, as a member of the national commitee I do not know of any policies that the national committee forms. The policies and platforms of the Democratic party are in the end the policies and platforms of the conventions and not of the committee."

To The Associated Press in Washington, Senator Maybank made the following additional comments:

"It is true that some of the policies are opposed by our people but that is always the case with any administration.

"Naturally in these serious times we are going through there is some defection for various reasons and some of the policies are not entirely in keeping with our ideas.

"But on the big broad war policies and the momentous questions of today in foreign policy and the prosecution of the war, we have been and will be back of the commander-in-chief of the army and navy."

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
March 12, 1943



"Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party."

* * *

Alabama Democrats are asked to come to the aid of the party to the tune of $30,000, of which Jefferson County Democrats are asked for $6,000. County Campaign Chairman Roy Johnson hopes to have Jefferson's share raised well before the March 18 deadline. It should be subscribed and over-subscribed, in this column's opinion, and as heartily by Democrats who are against more New Dealing as by those who are for it. We need two parties here and the way is prepared now for two to exist. But their names will be the Democratic party and the Republican party. We don't want a hate-making, isolated, psychopathic Southern third party, dominated by enemies not only of more New Dealing but of the fine New Deal that has been dealt. We don't want a Southern party held together by the Negro problem alone, making that problem more tense than ever and denying the South its proper participations in all the other great questions of the country to which it belongs.

* * *

That is why this is the time for all Democrats, whether they are for Roosevelt again or not, to come to the aid of their party. They can fight out their differences within the party at the primaries—and it is going to be the devil of a fight—but they must make sure beforehand they do not play into the hands of the separate party people by failing in support of their Democratic party.

* * *

The antidote to the orgy of hostile and destructive investigation at Washington is investigation friendly to the fine ideas back of some of the agencies under fire but free of the party line that calls for total and blind support. That, as The Age-Herald pointed out yesterday, is what makes Congr. Cooley's planned investigation of the Farm Security Administration so worth while. If the spirit in which he has proposed the investigation prevails this finely conceived agency may be saved from destruction by being confined to the ideal of successful individual farm ownership in which it was created.

* * *

Errors spread sometimes until they work their way into history. The thought comes on reading a national news magazine's report that Jim Farley came to Alabama to confer with Frank Dixon and the implication that Farley may have in mind an alliance with the Southern third party crowd and the so-called Christian Americans. Farley did not come here to see ex-Gov. Dixon. He had only a few perfunctory words with him and those in the presence of Cooper Green. He is not of a mind to deal with third party people or Christian Americans. But because of one mistaken report here the whole country is being given to believe the contrary.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

South Will Stick to Democrats, Poll of Governors' Views Shows

Columbus, Ohio, June 23 (AP)—A sampling of views of Southern Governors, both on and off the record, disclosed today that while there is considerable dissatisfaction below the Mason-Dixon line with certain New Deal policies, this traditionally Democratic stronghold will support the Democratic ticket next year, fourth term or no.

These State heads attending the annual Governors' Conference made it plain, however, that they would make certain platform demands at the 1944 national convention as "bargaining points," and that the South's big block of votes would not be cast for Roosevelt without some concessions.

Opposition Indicated.

Freight rates allegedly discriminatory against the South, poll tax repeal, the race question and patronage are the big "sore spots" in party affairs in their section, the Governors said. But they believed these could be healed "within the party framework."

The consensus seemed to be that while there would be opposition to the President's renomination, should he run, (and few doubted that he would) they would go along. Some felt a Southerner on the ticket as the vice presidential nominee would help to appease the Southern leaders in the belief that, if elected, he would see their problems were given "more attention."

'Revolt' Denied.

Asked about reports of a "political revolt" taking place in the South, Governor Broughton of North Carolina said:

"There is no such revolt as has been reported. There's a sharp difference of opinion, but North Carolina will support the national Democratic ticket next year, and I think that will be true of the whole South."

Ellis Arnall, young Georgia Governor, said: "We are going with that candidate at the convention who will equalize opportunity and accord fair treatment for our section. We are going with that group within the party who are more friendly to the South and to Georgia."

Gov. Olin D. Johnston of South Carolina had this to say:

"You can't cross a bridge until you get to it, but if the war is going on, as I see it, the most logical and sensible thing to do is to re-elect President Roosevelt."

Johnston added the South, especially his state, "feels a great deal of resentment of outside interference in our local problems, such as the handling of the race question." He termed the anti-lynching bill a "direct stab at the South" and considered the measure to repeal the poll tax as another move against "states' rights."

Tennessee 'Depends.'

Gov. Sam H. Jones of Louisiana said he was not concerned with candidates, but with conditions.

"I want my section freed from economic slavery," he told newsmen, adding he had already "popped off" against the New Deal so many times that he cared not to dwell on it again.

Gov. Prentice Cooper of Tennessee said the degree of support for the Democratic ticket would depend, among other things, on what kind of a decision was handed down on freight rate equality.

Gov. Earl Warren of California removed himself from the list of Republican presidential possibilities. "I am not a candidate," he said. "I do not consider myself a candidate and there is no move afoot to make me a candidate."

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala

Dixie's Views

One study of the American Institute of Public Opinion shows that almost 90 per cent of the Democrats in the South still favor Mr. Roosevelt for president above all other Democrats. Another study shows that 67 per cent of the rank and file of Southern people have positive criticisms of the administration.

There is no inconsistency in these two studies. There is rather an indication of a sound democracy. Of course, the latter study included others than Democrats. But when 90 per cent of a group support a particular official while roughly 50 per cent of them feel free to criticize one or more of his policies, there is proof that independent thought still prevails in this country.

The latest poll indicates, too, the weaknesses of the administration in the average Southern mind. Poor handling of labor unions ranks well in the lead of the criticisms leveled at the Roosevelt administration. The poll was taken, however, at a time when the government's dispute with Lewis and the coal miners was at its height. In a period of labor peace, that attitude might be modified. Extravagance, waste of public funds, inefficiency, bu-

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reaucracy, red tape ranked high in view of the emphasis given them by some persons. Only 5 per cent of Southern people, it appears, criticize the administration chiefly for its policies.

Those complaints, it is to be noted, can be found in all the nation. They are not sectional in emphasis. It is not until one gets well down in the list that one finds complaints which can be regarded as largely peculiar to the South. And the number of complaints here is smaller than might be expected

come too sanguine about carrying the section. Loyalties, it is to be observed, are not always measured by the volume of complaints

REVOLT BY DIXIE LOOMS; LEADERS BECOME ACTIVE

MAR 13 1943 Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Congressional and Gubernatorial "Bloc" May Secede — Resent Economic Pressure and Alleged Indifference Of Roosevelt Administration

MAR 13 1943

By SIDNEY WALKER
(Staff Correspondent)
(Special to The Pittsburgh Courier)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 11—Dixie's political leaders . . . those men in public office whose actions and thinking channelize Southern customs and traditions . . . just don't like the New Deal philosophy!

And . . . come 1944 . . . they are going to desert the Democratic Party of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

MAR 13 1943

Don't misunderstand me, now. They're not going to become Republicans. That would be asking even too much of these New Deal "haters." But they are willing to allow the Republican party to win rather than submit to the social reforms which they've been forced to swallow as "New Deal" Democrats.

Win or lose, however, the Negro vote will once again play an increasingly important part in the final decision. The South knows it . . . doesn't like it . . . and they are out to develop a Southern political party dedicated to the time-worn "white supremacy" idea.

This prophecy is based on a trend which has become more and more apparent within the past few months.

It might be a far cry from last autumn's article by John Temple Graves in The Virginia Quarterly Review on "The Southern Negro and the War Crisis" to Carroll Kilpatrick's "Will the South Secede?" in Harper's this month.

MAR 13 1943

Men Behind The Movement

But Kilpatrick's article and the story of Governor Sam H. Jones of Louisiana, which is currently appearing in The Saturday Evening Post, under the symbolic title, "Will Dixie Bolt the New Deal?" form the outlines of a thought-pattern highly indicative of the ferment and rumbling among Southern political big-wigs.

The Dixie Revolt is "in the cards" . . . and it is destined to affect the total world picture. Just who are the men behind this latest "movement of secession"?

There's Governor Sam Jones of Louisiana . . . Governor Frank M. Dixon of Alabama . . . Senator Ellison D. (Cotton Ed) Smith of South Carolina . . . anti-New Deal Senator Josiah W. Bailey of North Carolina . . . Senator "Pappy" O'Daniel of Texas . . . Senator Kenneth McKellar of Tennessee . . . Congressman John E. Rankin of Mississippi, and, of course, (that man) Bilbo.

Count them off!

They are the men who are leading the procession, but bulwarking their efforts to set up their own Southern "New Deal" philosophy are such stalwarts (sic) as Eugene Blease of South Carolina, half-brother of the late Senator Cole Blease, a violent anti-Negroist; Gessner T. McCorvey, chairman of the Alabama State Democratic Executive committee; Senator Tom Connally of Texas, Howard Smith of Virginia, Eugene Cox of Georgia, reactionary Senator Carter Glass of Virginia, and numerous others whose names are well-known throughout their sections.

On the surface, the fight is resolving itself into an economic struggle . . . the "pressure politics" of a powerful minority to maintain their present battle lines and advance from there.

Cauldron Of Tradition

But beneath the surface is a smouldering cauldron of "tradition by divine right" of being born white, which even now would wink at national disaster.

MAR 13 1943

For years, Southern political leaders, riding the wave of popularity which enveloped President Roosevelt, played "possum" and went along. Chairmen of practically every important Senate and House committee, they controlled legislation and bided their time. They slowed up the progress of progressive legislation, but were powerless to stop it.

Labor and Roosevelt were in the saddle . . . but your Democratic reactionaries bided their time.

And now, they feel, that time has come. Commenting on this, Kilpatrick writes:

"Now the tide has turned. The white man again is being taught to hate the black man; the farmer is being taught to hate the laborer. It is an old pattern. It is as old as John C. Calhoun would be were he alive today.

"It manifested itself in the days immediately before the Civil War, at the end of the century when Populism was rampant, and again in the 1920's when the Ku Klux klan was revived. Political power and the preservation of the status quo are more important to the Southern ruling class and the politicians they control than the eradication of poverty and the liberation of former slaves."

'Smoke Screen' Talk

MAR 13 1943

Echoing this statement is the comment of Governor Jones of Louisiana. Said he:

MAR 13 1943

"It is abundantly and increasingly clear that the New Deal high command hopes to use war as an instrument for forcing the social 'equality' of the Negro upon the South. Southerners observe dignitaries high in the New Deal firmament as they travel about our region, blithely sowing riot and race dissension amongst us for generations to come, and they are disturbed and alarmed. . . ."

And here's another Jones quote:

"White Southern boys in the armed services, who, perhaps, have an understanding of and affection for the Negro race not shared by their comrades from other sections, do not improve in morale when they are told that one of the things they are fighting for is social equality of the Negro."

THE WORLD KNOWS THAT THIS IS "SMOKE SCREEN" TALK!

Governor Jones, we believe, put into words the structural philosophy of white Southerners when he made this significant statement:

"We believe that the industrious and ambitious Negro in the South has an opportunity to fulfill himself within his own social framework limited only by his abilities. We may be wrong. Perhaps the mongrelization of the South, for which 'social equality' is the euphemism, would benefit the nation, but many wise Negro leaders oppose mongrelization as much as our white leaders do; they have pride in their race and in its separate social system. And they resent being manipulated as the tools of illustrious white agitators pursuing sociological hobbies.

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"Actually, it is possible to leave the race problem with a simple statement—not of controversial opinion but of another fact. The New Deal Democrats have their method of solving the race problem, and we have ours. Ergo, let's affiliate with a group which supports our own view . . . OR CREATE A GROUP, IF NECESSARY."

He Has Something Here

new party, John Temple Graves has raised an interesting angle which just cannot be overlooked at this time. Discussing the race problem from every angle, this Southerner—who bears the "Liberal" label—penned these dynamite-laden words:

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"The greatest advancement for the Negro . . . in what it promises even more than in what it has brought about . . . is his discovery of the Democratic party. For . . . the first time in history the Negro went to this party in 1932. It went again in 1936 and 1940.

"INSOFAR AS IT REPRESENTS SOMETHING NEAR TO A BALANCE OF POWER IN PIVOTAL STATES LIKE ILLINOIS, PENNSYLVANIA, INDIANA and OHIO, IT MAY HAVE BECOME NOW OF MORE VALUE TO THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY THAN THE VOTE OF THE WHITE MAN IN THE SOUTH.

"THE NEGRO MAY ACTUALLY EXERCISE MORE POLITICAL POWER IN THE NATION NOW THAN DO THE WHITE SOUTHERNERS WHO VOTE. That is a tremendous fact. Its implications in many directions and some of them are tragic.

"IN AN INCREASINGLY POLITICAL AND FEDERAL DAY THE NEGRO IS GOING TO BE COMPETED FOR BY BOTH PARTIES IN YEARS TO COME AND ON A BASIS OF CONCESSIONS THAT WILL BRING UNPRECEDENTED ADVANCEMENT."

Graves, in his article, contends that the Negro's rapid progress be spoiled "by any sharp aggravation of race relations in a th which seems for the present honestly seeking an adjustment to a decision."

Revive Racial Antagonisms

But Kilpatrick, writing some five months after Graves, has a different viewpoint.

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Negro's Political Power

But while Dixie leaders plan action with their electoral votes . . . ther to defeat the New Deal at the '44 convention, or to form adifferent

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"Another and more portentous factor in Southern politics," he says, "is the resurgence of racial antagonisms. It has been said by responsible persons that race relations in the South are worse than they have been in 50 years.

"This time," he adds, "the Southerner is not being told that the Republican party is the mortal enemy of 'white supremacy.' Instead he is being told that the enemy is the New Deal in general and President and Mrs. Roosevelt in particular. 'White supremacy' graces the Democratic party standard at the top of every ballot printed in the South, and it has always been the rallying cry of Southern politics. But seldom since 1865—and certainly not since the Populist days at the close of the century—has it been so ominous a cry as it is today."

Woven into the fabric of the cloth which the South is cutting for its own political "salvation" are the problems of poll tax legislation, lynching legislation, labor, disfranchisement, segregation, economics, the educational system, equal pay for teachers, treatment of Negro troops in the South and other "foreign" issues.

'White Supremacy' Is Weapon

But deep behind it all is the resentment of the white Southern leaders who fear that their pet weapon of attack will be taken away from them.

The weapon? White supremacy! And here is Kilpatrick's comment on this:

"Newspapers that a few years ago fought for fair treatment of the Negro are on the defensive today. The Southern demagogue has cried 'n——r' and men are on the march. A Southern Congressman recently told me how much aroused people were everywhere he had been in his State. Many were armed and prepared for the worst, he said. I asked him what he thought could be done to calm tempers on both sides.

"'I don't think just killing a few n——rs would do much good,' he replied. 'The trouble is too widespread.'"

In another statement, he said:

'Negro Problem' Is Economic

"The basis of the new 'Negro Problem' is economic. Negroes have jobs. Cooks can no longer be hired for $4 or $5 a week. Their husbands make enough money to support them. White resentment against the 'independence' which this new-found wealth has brought to the serving class has aroused the deepest and bitterest animosities. Stories about Negro 'impudence' have spread over the side fence and in the parlor like wildfire. 'The Negro can no longer be kept in his place,' it is said."

This is the story . . . brought up to date. Strange bed-fellows are about to lie down side by side. The white South is working according to a planned schedule. They are reckoning with their adversary — President Roosevelt — but they believe they can effect a tie-up which will seal his fate. But President Roosevelt still remains the man of the hour. To him is largely entrusted the future of the Allied Nations.

To him, we believe, democracy is a living thing. It breathes and talks. He knows that RIGHT will triumph. He knows that he cannot PREACH the "Four Freedoms." democracy and the other thnigs for which our boys are sacrificing their lives on foreign soil for an empty, shallow, meaningless shiboleth.

To him, democracy — definite and active — must be the warming blanket which cloaks the United States.

It might not come overnight, but the Mariner of the White House has charted his course. The Joneses, the Dixons, the South, might slow him up . . . but they won't stop him.

We believe he has recognized the challenge of the nation's "No. 1 Economic Problem" and will meet it in due time, using as his credo the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights.

We have tried to give you a picture of things to come. Remember next year, when these things come to pass . . . we told you first!

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Barclay Visit Bolsters Roosevelt's Stock

WASHINGTON —(ANP)—Sentiment in the capital is to the effect that the visit of President Barclay of Liberia may be a political gesture, planned to restore the colored vote to the Democratic party.

Loss of colored support is blamed on the party's failure to sustain Roosevelt's plans for improving the race's condition.

Perpetuation Of Jim Crow Flayed By The Citizens

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

The "Solid South"—a blind, traditional, taken-for-granted bloc within the Democratic party—was closely examined this week by colored America when a self-interest question, "Do you believe the Negro would be helped if the Solid South deserted the Democratic Party?" was submitted by The Pittsburgh Courier's Bureau of Public Sentiment. The majority of those polled was convinced the South is using its well known political strength as a whip over the federal government to perpetuate jim-crow policies. And just as soon as there is a division of political opinion in the South the Negro will be sought after for his voting power, said the citizens.

To the question:
51.1% answered "YES."
44.2% answered "NO."
4.7% were uncertain.

WREST CONTROL

A substantial group differed from the majority thinkers and advocated that control of the Democratic party in the South be wrested from the "reactionary, anti-democratic incumbents so that a popular party of the man-on-the-street, composed of city and rural workers could be developed with complete suffrage for all.

"Neither party has made any worthwhile effort to give the Southern Negro the rights and privileges as set forth in the Constitution," continued this body of voters. "The South is solid against the Negro regardless of what party it conducts its Hitlerian principles under."

TERMED A CANCER

The Negro below the Mason and Dixon line was more emphatic in his belief that the Solid South should desert. Tabulations showed 57.6% were in favor of it while 39.2% were not. "The Solid South idea is a cancer," said a prominent lawyer, "and it will spread its poisonous influence throughout any party machine it enters."

"I think the Negro would be helped if the Solid South deserted," said a Southerner, "but I don't think it will happen. What the South needs is a change in its traditional thinking on the race question."

Many others felt that the party label was insignificant. The South's heart needs to be changed and the bitterness and prejudices which the Southern white has preached to his youth must be replaced by an intelligent and realistic approach to the problem, stated this group.

"The war of secession did not free the Negro once and similar tactics will not free him this time," was the way a school teacher summed it up.

Playing Into Axis' Hands

The advocates of alleged southern democracy are now playing into Axis hands by the following acts—which seem perfectly okay to Congressman Martin Dies who is appointed to investigate "un-American activities." Here are some of the current "going ons" that Hitler loves:

(1) The attacks against President and Mrs. Roosevelt for their friendly attitudes toward the Colored Peoples of the world.

(2) The rising tide of anti-semetic propaganda.

(3) The consistent efforts of the Dies committee to discredit colored leaders, like Dr. Bethune and Dean William Pickens.

(4) Subtle efforts to handcuff the colored press.

(5) Reluctance to cooperate with colored leaders like Judge William Hastie and Philip Randolph.

These circumstances may appear trivial to the prejudiced persons among us .To the Axis, however, they are "sharp cutting blows" in the splitting of our democracy. Hitler said it could be done — in "Mien Kampf."

ELECTION LAWS UNDER A BAN

February 11, 1943

Court action has been threatened for the purpose of gaining admittance of negroes to the Democratic party in this state. This has led to a proposition that will soon be carried out according to reports to strike from the law books all of the primary election laws.

Bills were in preparation in Columbia last week to be introduced for the purpose of wiping out all primary laws except those in relation to fraud in elections.

The comimttee has recommended the passage of such a measure.

The passage of this new law would make every political party the sole judge of the qualifications of its members, the location of the voting precincts and other matters connected with elections.

Any candidate who would not feel satisfied with the result of any election would have the right to appeal to the supreme court under the proper proceedings to have the Court pass upon his rights.

SEEKS TESTIMONIALS.

Atlanta Negro leaders yesterday were being contacted by John Henry Adams, one of Jacksonville's leading Negroes, who arrived here to obtain testimonials of loyalty to President Roosevelt. Adams, a former teacher at Morris Brown College here, is traveling through the country, obtaining testimonials from approximately 30,000 Negroes, which he will place in a book and present to the President.

SPARTANBURG REPORT SAYS REQUEST REFUSED

SPARTANBURG, June 16—(AP)—The Spartanburg Herald said today the South Carolina Democratic Executive Committee has unanimously refused a request of the national executive committee for financial support in the 1944 National Democratic campaign.

Disagreement of the state committee with the national policies of the party was the basis for refusal to contribute to the 1944 party war chest, the Herald said.

The newspaper, quoting state committeemen it did not name, said the chief reason for the dissension was the resentment of the South Carolina unit of apparent efforts of the national committee "to woo the Negro vote at the expense of southern feelings."

The state committeemen, the Herald said, following a meeting in Columbia two weeks ago, instructed Winchester Smith of Barnwell county, state chairman of the committee, to write the national committee of their refusal to comply with the request for a contribution to national party funds. The letter was mailed either yesterday or today, the Herald said.

The state committee based its refusal on two reasons, the Herald said it was informed. They were (1) that the unit's treasury was in no position to contribute funds to the national campaign, and (2) that even if it were, the committee would still refuse a contribution because it did not "see eye to eye with the national committee on matters of policy."

Gadsden, Ala., Times
July 1, 1943

Alabama Congressman Slaps Down 'Instructor' Upon Racial Problems

WASHINGTON, July 1.—(AP)—This, according to Representative Boykin of Alabama, is how an unidentified intruder came to get himself slapped down:

The man asserted he could tell more than Southern—" how to handle a racial problem, which Boykin and Senator Bankhead, also of Alabama, were discussing while dining on the roof of the Washington Hotel.

Thereupon Boykin slapped the man down. A poke from the representative when the man and his party approached, apparently bent on later trouble, as Boykin and Bankhead were leaving.

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Birmingham, Ala. Age-Herald
January 27, 1943

PARTY STRAYED, SIMPSON STATES

Democrats Charged With Abandoning Principles Of Early Leaders

State Senator James A. Simpson, speaking Tuesday at the Birmingham Kiwanis Club meeting in the Tutwiler Hotel, charged that the Democratic party has strayed from the fundamental principals laid down by its founder, Thomas Jefferson, and by Andrew Jasckson, Grover Cleveland and Woodrow Wilson, who revived these principles. His speech dealt with the history of the Democratic party since its foundation 140 years ago until the present time.

Asserting that the Democratic party has won when it has stood by the policies of its founders, Simpson said, "there are two concepts of government. One believes in government by law and the other government by man." He asserted that the party in its fundamentals believes in government by law, and has been successful when these fundamentals have been followed and unsuccessful when such policy has been abandoned.

He said that the Democratic party was founded by a farmer and had, until the present time, been a friend and protector of this group. Now with the party allied with Hague, of New Jersey, Kelley, of Chicago, and Flynn, of the Bronx, and divided on the racial question, the party has forsaken its former principles.

Party Now Divided

The party, Mr. Simpson said, is now divided on the racial question, with one faction insisting on the elimination of Negro segregation and disturbing the friendly relations existing between the white and Negro in the South.

"The fact that my party, instead of following the policy of the party of Jefferson and Jackson who believed in distributing governmental power among the counties and the cities, would make Washington the county seat, raises the question, 'what shall we do?'" the senator declared. He said that he did not know what could be done but believed that certain fundamental laws proclaimed in the Ten Commandments, "are just as true today as when written on Mt. Sinai." These show two forms of government, he said, one by law and one by man. The second, he continued, would lodge government in one man or a group of men, while the first would make for rule by the will of the people.

"The line dividing the two concepts of government," he said, "occurred in the presidential race between John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, the former believing in government by men and the latter in government by law. Jefferson won, and on his declaration the Democratic party was founded."

Simpson urged that the people look forward, not backward, and renew the fight for rule by law. He advised that we "go forward to the day when we shall again live under the rule of law."

He said that it was not necessary to quit the Democratic party in order to attain this end. "The people of the United States believe in the rule of law and all that it is necessary to do is to show them the way," he said, declaring that as long as the Democratic party adheres to the fundamentals, it will win.

Early Split Is Cited

He pointed out that when the party split on the slavery issue, it was defeated, but that when it reverted to its principles again under Grover Cleveland in 1884, it won. Bryan espoused the free silver 16 to 1 policy and lost, despite his personal popularity. Wilson then reestablished the party on principles approved by the people and won, he said.

In 1932 the Democratic platform was based on democratic fundamentals and Roosevelt was elected, Mr. Simpson said. He said that now "boy lawyers and cranks are running the government," and insisted that these be thrown out.

"It is necessary," Mr. Simpson stated, "to send men to Washington who are close to the people to do the job of restoring the Democratic party and to return the government to a rule by the people." He insisted that we send men to Congress that "understand the needs of the country and know the people who pay the bill." He warned against sending to Washington "men who helped put the boy lawyers and cranks on the payroll."

Vice President Tom Bowron presided at the meeting and Howard Yeilding introduced the speaker. Seated at the speaker's table were members of the Jefferson County delegation in the House of Representatives at Montgomery, the Jefferson County and Birmingham commissioners, and former Gov. Frank M. Dixon.

Memphis, Tenn., Commercial Appeal
January 21, 1943

SOUTHERNERS PLACED ON STEERING GROUP

House Democrats Move Step Away From New Deal

BARKLEY FACES PROBLEM

By GEORGE MORRIS
From The Commercial Appeal
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Steering Committees of the majority appeared Wednesday to be well on the way toward wresting control from 10 years of domination by the New Deal.

At Tuesday's House caucus a resolution was adopted providing that when more than one state is in a zone or has more than 20 democratic members, it shall have an additional member of the Steering Committee. This resolution gave the South four additional members of the committee, including Representative Whittington of Mississippi and Representative Starnes of Alabama. As a result control passes from Speaker Rayburn and House leadership to the Democratic majority.

Rock And Hard Spot

The situation in the Senate has not been completely clarified, but it is such that Majority Leader Barkley may take either horn of a dilemma. Senator Overton of Louisiana and Senator Bailey of North Carolina are avowed candidates for places in Steering Committee. Senator Barkley has the choice of appointing the Louisiana or North Carolina senator and thereby losing control of the Steering Committee, or rejecting them and losing control of the Senate majority. He has had two weeks in which to make up his mind, but has reached no decision.

Democrats were busy Wednesday appraising the result of Tuesday's House caucus which rejected Representative Marcantonio for appointment to the Judiciary Committee. The Tennessee delegation divided upon the question of the desirability of paying off Mr. Marcantonio, New York, American Labor member of the House, and alleged Communist, for his services to the Democratic party. Representatives Davis of Memphis, Murray of Jackson, and Courtney of Franklin, opposed Mr. Marcantonio. Representatives Cooper of Dyersburg; Priest of Nashville, and Gore of Carthage favored election of Mr. Marcantonio.

Representative Kefauver of Chattanooga was ill and did not attend the caucus but Wednesday approved its action and said, "It should have a wholesome effect." Representative McCord of Lewisburg was out of the city.

It developed Wednesday that an unofficial Steering Committee which directed the successful fight against appointment of Mr. Marcantonio was composed of Representatives Sumner of Texas, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Rankin of Mississippi, Hobbs of Alabama, Davis of Tennessee, Allen of Louisiana, and Tarver of Georgia.

Murray Told Him

The opposition, it was revealed Wednesday, had more obstacles to overcome than were apparent at the time. Supporting the Marcantonio nomination were the Administration, the House leadership, including Speaker Rayburn, Majority Leader McCormack, Representative Cooper, chairman of the Sub-Committee on Ways and Means, the Society for the Advancement of Colored People, organizations for state poll tax repeal, and other pressure groups.

Members of the Tennessee delegation said pressure was brought to bear on them by urging that Speaker Rayburn was very much interested in having Mr. Marcantonio on the Judiciary Committee and that members owed their committee appointments to the speaker. Representative Murray is said to have replied for the opposition by saying he would not vote for any "blankety-blank Communist."

Columbia, S. C. Record
January 29, 1943

Congress Told Of 48-Year-Old Mule Of North

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—(AP)—Ed Davis, Negro farmer of near North, S. C., and his 48-year-old mule, have been brought to the attention of congress by Chairman Fulmer (D-SC) of the house agriculture committee.

E. B. Friday, of North, wrote the congressman to tell him about the mule and its owner. Fulmer placed the letter in the congressional record.

Davis, Friday wrote, drove the mule in his younger days while courting the girl he married. After he married he reared a family of six children, plowing the same mule and other livestock acquired by him.

The farmer had no property when he married, Friday said, but today owns a farm of 150 acres and a comfortable home; a modern tractor, cultivators and a grain harvester.

"How much this old mule has contributed in labor to the purchaser of the farm and the support of the family would be difficult to estimate," Friday said.

Democratic National Committee in preparation for the national elections next year.

There has never been a man in the White House with whom all Democrats could agree, not to mention Republicans and pseudo-Democrats. And the stronger the President the more bitter will his enemies become. Nevertheless, taken as a whole, there has never been a entire history of the country which partisans could point with such pride as they can to that of Franklin D. Roosevelt. He has had to meet issues both on the home front and on the foreign front that had in this connection to the question of racial relations, and there was some justification for resentment at the time because of what seemed to be an effort on the part of Washington to override our ideas with respect to racial segregation.

Let's Support the Party

However, this paper does not believe that there are any racial differences here in this state that cannot be resolved in a spirit of peace and cooperation.

(Editorial from The Anniston Times Feb. 21, 1943)

It was unfortunate that some of those who are charged with the conduct of the affairs of the Democratic party here in Alabama recently assumed a defeatist attitude and declared that no money could be raised for that purpose because they were not in sympathy with some recent actions of the President and the national administration. Particular reference was had in this connection to the question of racial relations, and there was some justification for resentment at the time because of what seemed to be an effort on the part of Washington to override our ideas with respect to racial segregation. Moreover, if we are willing to decert the Democratic party on this issue, where shall we go? Is the Alabama re-Republican party not traditionally a much greater offender in this particular than Democracy? And does not Mr. Willkie appear in public with Negroes to an extent that is conspicuous? Or is one party so, and apparently there are many who agree with this paper for re-capacity, writing into the record the world that Alabama is still firm in the faith of our ancestors.

Ft. Payne, Ala., Journal
March 3, 1943

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Birmingham, Ala., News
July 11, 1943

Sparks Is Seen As 'Favorite Son' Candidate In '44

May Be Bargaining Representative For States In Deep South

BY FRED TAYLOR

A movement, sparked by a group of Mobile business and political leaders, has been quietly launched to project Gov. Chauncey Sparks as "favorite son" candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1944.

Plan is to pledge Alabama's 22 delegates (to be elected next Spring) to Gov. Sparks, who would lead the delegation to the Democratic national convention as bargaining representative of this and other Deep South states.

Whether the governor would run for delegate-at-large, a post it is felt he could easily win, or whether he would go to the convention as chief executive and titular head of the Democratic party in Alabama, has not been decided.

One of the wheelhorses in the Mobile group is strapping, ruddy-faced John E. Toomey, an outstanding businessman-politico and long arm friend of the governor, who managed his campaign in the gulf county last year and also in 1938.

The Mobile group, as do many others, feel that Gov. Sparks stands for the fundamental principles in the Democratic party as its members do. They also believe that Sparks, as they do, feels that the party should be purged from within.

In other words, they feel that all rows should be kept within the Democratic party in this state and fought out in the party, and condemn any attempt to split Democratic ranks and form a third party, as former Gov. Frank Dixon tried vainly to do. Under the firm leadership of Mobile's Gessner T. McCorvey, chairman of the State Democratic Executive Committee, the party governing body thoroughly squelched the attempt to split the party early last January.

One of the principal things the Mobile group wants to bargain for is better handling of the racial question. It was not long ago that Chairman McCorvey lashed out at Democratic national leaders for the way the administration had handled the Negro situation in the South.

Another is freight rates and the removal of other economic barriers blocking the South's development. It will be interesting to see what comes of the movement launched down in Mobile.

* * *

BLACK BELT MOVEMENT—A similar movement, although not designating Gov. Sparks as a "favorite son" candidate or bargaining head, has burgeoned in certain Black Belt counties, notably Dallas.

Political leaders in these counties (they naturally are Democrats) want to promote the candidacy of some outstanding Southerner, be he governor of Alabama, chief executive of some other Southern state or Deep South leader, to go to the next Democratic national convention to bargain along the same lines set out above.

There may be a coalition of the two groups, with Gov. Sparks as their man.

PEP TALK—After addressing the Alabama Bar Association, Ohio's Sen. Robert A. Taft was luncheon guest of Alabama Republican leaders at the Tutwiler Hotel Saturday, when he delivered a roundly applauded pep talk in which he pictured GOP presidential chances in 1944 as rosy.

Taft, himself a presidential aspirant three years ago but now a Bricker backer, said the New Deal had made all the issues necessary for a Republican victory.

But the Ohio senator warned that the only way Republicans can win is to face the New Deal squarely and not make the mistake again of "trying to out deal the New Deal."

Asserting Congress had shown its independence and repudiated New Deal domestic methods, marking the end of an era in America, Sen. Taft told Alabama GOP-ers that "we've got to face the New Deal squarely and do as Congress has done — strike it down, piece by piece."

He drew cheers from the Republican group when he lashed out at President Roosevelt repeatedly. The senator said that so far as he could see the president had no foreign policy, but added "that I have no doubt he'll go out and develop one."

Taft told the Republican group, several of whom voted for his nomination at Philadelphia three years ago when Wendell Willkie wrested the GOP nomination from him, that America and other strong nations should see that peace was enforced after this war, but he declared himself emphatically against "any elaborate international setup to try to police the world." And he said he did not think the American people would stand for anything of the kind, preferring to have this nation free to act as its sees fit.

"Such an international state as they (New Deal) proposes would put together the white and black, yellow and brown races," said Sen. Taft. "Such a state would fall apart overnight."

Furthermore, he added, he did not think the world ought to be ruled any more by British-American imperialism any more than by German imperialism, although he conceded the former would be much preferred if either had to be.

Taft told the Republican gathering that the Army and Navy were being run successfully because the president was letting Army and Navy men run them, but he declared the home front had been badly bungled, particularly with regard to price control.

He likened gas rationing, particularly in the East where motorists are given a certain amount of gasoline and then told what they can or can't do with it, to the prohibition era, asserting both were farcical. The senator brought cheers when he declared that the American people will not be driven and can't be regulated, adding that no administration could control prices by force and that this administration had made a "mess" of attempting to. He proposed education of the people along lines of voluntary rationing, such as was done in the first World War, as the best solution.

Getting back to Republican chances in 1944, Sen. Taft said the fact that the war very likely would be going on then should not stand in the way of a GOP victory.

"There is no reason why Republicans shouldn't win, even if the war is still going on," he said. "There has been nothing so far to indicate that Mr. Roosevelt can conduct the war better than any other man."

Among those attending the luncheon were C. O. Vardaman, Birmingham, chairman of the State Republican Executive Committee, who presided; B. L. (Lonnie) Noojin, Gadsden, Ala., GOP national committeeman, and Mrs. Noojin; Mrs. Pearl Wates, Birmingham, state Republican national committeewoman; C. D. Adkins, Ashville; secretary-treasurer of the state committee; Charlie Robinson, state committeeman and arrangements committee chairman; W. L. Longshore, Birmingham, Jefferson Republican Committee head; Rep. Frank M. Johnson, Winston, only Republican member of the Legislature; Percy Pitts, Clanton, former GOP member of the Legislature, and scores of others.

Sen. Taft spent the week-end with Noojin, a close friend, and Mrs. Noojin at their Gadsden home.

* * *

BANKHEAD—Sen. John H. Bankhead, veteran lawyer-politico, who long has served in the Senate with Taft, was at the speaker's table Saturday when the Ohio senator was addressing the Alabama Bar Association convention.

In fact, it was Sen. Bankhead, as Taft pointed out in his speech, who urged the Ohioan to come to Alabama and address the bar. Afterward, during a lull in the program, they sat in the audience together and chatted for several minutes.

* * *

"SALUTE TO YESTERDAY"—Oldest and "youngest" member of the Alabama bar attending the Birmingham convention was Judge Joseph H. Nathan, 87-year-old Sheffield attorney and himself past president of the association. He was introduced by Jacob Walker, retiring president, as the oldest living past president.

Judge Nathan, a former circuit judge, who said he is now retiring from active practice, was bar head in 1919. Veteran of many courtroom battles, Judge Nathan said that in recent months he had confined practice to office work and had given up courtroom tussles for good.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

South Resents Labor Policy And Inefficiency Of New Deal

Lewis Strike Handling Draws More Fire Than Administration Way With Negro Question

BY GEORGE GALLUP
Director, American Institute of Public Opinion

PRINCETON, N. J.—Whatever the political tides may be, the Democrats must have the backing of the solid South to win the election next year. Because of the vital importance of the South to the Roosevelt administration politically, the Institute has during recent days been conducting a survey among the people as distinguished from the leaders in 13 Southern states to determine their attitudes on a number of current problems, including politics.

Of various possible Democratic candidates for president next year Mr. Roosevelt is the No. 1 choice of Southern Democrats, as reported last week. That does not mean, however, that they like all the things he is doing.



One question put to Southerners in the Institute's survey was this:

"What do you like least about the Roosevelt administration?"

The White House foreign policy can run on for virtually no criticism; it is the handling of domestic affairs which Southern voters single out for blame.

Specifically, the three things they dislike most about the Roosevelt administration are: (1) what they consider the poor handling of labor, or "coddling of unions"; (2) waste and extravagance in the use of public funds, and (3) inefficiency in administration, or too much red tape and bureaucracy.

Although a number of Southern leaders have expressed resentment over the Roosevelt administration's methods and attitudes in dealing with the Negro question, it is interesting to note that Southern voters put that topic relatively far down on their list of criticisms of the president.

One-third (33 per cent) of the Southerners interviewed in the survey had no criticism or no opinion to offer regarding the faults of the administration. The chief criticisms offered by the rest are as follows:

Poor handling of labor unions	22%
Extravagance, waste of public funds, paying people who don't work as hard as they should	11
Inefficiency, bureaucracy, red tape	11
Sponsoring too much equality of Negroes	5
Unfair treatment of Southern farmers	5
Stimulating liquor trade by repeal of prohibition	2
Failure to curb inflation	1
Too high taxes	1
Unpreparedness for war	1

Of the 22 per cent who mentioned the labor union situation as their chief criticism, one-third singled out the handling of the recent coal crisis, blaming the administration for "leniency toward John L. Lewis," or "hesitation in settling the coal strike."



In that connection it is interesting to note that many Southern Democrats in Congress joined with Republicans in voting for the Connally-Smith anti-strike bill and in passing the bill over the president's veto.

The Southern states included in the survey were Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas.

Negroes Serve as Judges and Clerks In First Time in Democratic Primary Here

Negro Judges and clerks served as now constituted that Negroes as election officials anywhere in the Twenty-first Precinct in the Democratic primary here yesterday, the first time in the history of Virginia or the South. Formerly, the great majority of Negroes who voted were aligned in the Republican Party in the Negroes with their vote, but the vast majority of South, but the vast majority of cials in the precinct yesterday. them in recent years have been The three judges were H. C. ardent supporters of President Young, S. H. Bell and P. J. Chesson. Roosevelt and long have been vot- The clerks were Walter C. Fulford ing in Democratic primaries here and Kelvit E. Shaw.

The Democratic party in Virginia has not been ruled any more by British-American imperialism any more than by German imperialism, although he conceded the former would be much preferred if either had to be.

Taft told the Republican gathering that the Army and Navy were being run successfully because the president was letting Army and Navy men run them, but he declared the home front had been badly bungled, particularly with regard to price control.

He likened gas rationing, particularly in the East where motorists are given a certain amount of gasoline and then told what they can or can't do with it, to the prohibition era, asserting both were farcical. The senator brought cheers when he declared that the American people will not be driven and can't be regulated, adding that no administration could control prices by force and that this administration had made a "mess" of attempting to. He proposed education of the people along lines of voluntary rationing, such as was done in the first World War, as the best solution.

Getting back to Republican chances in 1944, Sen. Taft said the fact that the war very likely would be going on then should not stand in the way of a GOP victory.

"There is no reason why Republicans shouldn't win, even if the war is still going on," he said. "There has been nothing so far to indicate that Mr. Roosevelt can conduct the war better than any other man."

Among those attending the luncheon were C. O. Vardaman, Birmingham, chairman of the State Republican Executive Committee, who presided; B. L. (Lonnie) Noojin, Gadsden, Ala., GOP national committeeman, and Mrs. Noojin; Mrs. Pearl Wates, Birmingham, state Republican national committeewoman; C. D. Adkins, Ashville; secretary-treasurer of the state committee; Charlie Robinson, state committeeman and arrangements committee chairman; W. L. Longshore, Birmingham, Jefferson Republican Committee head; Rep. Frank M. Johnson, Winston, only Republican member of the Legislature; Percy Pitts, Clanton, former GOP member of the Legislature, and scores of others.

Sen. Taft spent the week-end with Noojin, a close friend, and Mrs. Noojin at their Gadsden home.

* * *

BANKHEAD—Sen. John H. Bankhead, veteran lawyer-politico, who long has served in the Senate with Taft, was at the speaker's table Saturday when the Ohio senator was addressing the Alabama Bar Association convention.

In fact, it was Sen. Bankhead, as Taft pointed out in his speech, who urged the Ohioan to come to Alabama and address the bar. Afterward, during a lull in the program, they sat in the audience together and chatted for several minutes.

* * *

"SALUTE TO YESTERDAY"—Oldest and "youngest" member of the Alabama bar attending the Birmingham convention was Judge Joseph H. Nathan, 87-year-old Sheffield attorney and himself past president of the association. He was introduced by Jacob Walker, retiring president, as the oldest living past president.

Judge Nathan, a former circuit judge, who said he is now retiring from active practice, was bar head in 1919. Veteran of many courtroom battles, Judge Nathan said that in recent months he had confined practice to office work and had given up courtroom tussles for good.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH
REEL 84

52d-1943

Between The Lines

(By Dean Gordon B. Handcock for ANP)

The Weekly Review Birmingham Ala.

JUL 24 1943

WRECKING THE ROOSEVELT; HIS FOES OPPOSE GAINS OF NEGROES AND LABOR

The wreck-Roosevelt campaign is progressing according to plan. If congress were as determined to wreck the axis powers as it seems determined to wreck Roosevelt, the outlook would not be so disquieting. This country has patiently stopped figuring war to play politics of the town-ward variety. Such democracy as we are displaying in Washington winn sooner or later destroy itself. A country that will pause in the midst of a life and death struggle and go out campaigning in politics does not commend its brand of democracy to a world that is bearing the cruel cross of war.

If Roosevelt is seeking a fourth term as President, he certainly deserves it. His ability to manipulate a run-away congress into a program of war preparation that is the outstanding marvel of history, is sufficient warrant for the belief that only he can tide us over these tempestuous times. He has forthwith my vote for as many terms as he cares to seek. When I support him I am not necessarily supportnig the Democratic party. I am supporting the man Roosevelt who has fought against dreadful odds and has put this nation in position to defend itself.

THE TWO INDICTMENTS

There are two indictments against Roosevelt. The first hings about his noble attempt to make Negroes an integral part of this nation. His New Deal policies included Negroes within the purvey of their benefits. Instead of handling out one luscious political plum as was the custom of the Republican party through so many administrations, Mr. Roosevelt attempted to integrate Negroes into the New Deal both vertically and horizontally. This was the first thing that raised suspicion of the New Deal. Roosevelt did not equivocate but pressed his point, with the result that a wave of unpopularity broke out in the south against him and his policies.

Negro representation in the governmental affairs of the United States has been greater under Roosevelt than in all the previous administrations combined. The terrible political ebatings he takes from time to time are the price he is called upon to pay for his attempts to improve the status of the laborers of the country. In the velt is crucified on the cross of politics, it may truly be said of him he died for Negroes and for labor.

The second indictment against Roosevelt grows out of his attmpts to improve the status of the laborers of the country. In the recent strike situation it was made to appear that Roosevelt was coddling John L. Lewis and company. The cry went up that Lewis was strangling the war efforts by calling for a strike at such a time as this. Nothing was said about the issues of the underpaid miners and the too-heavy profits of the operators. Recent accounts have it that profits have accrued to certain business from 5 per cent to 700 percent and Mr. Roosevelt has faithfully tried to increase the well-being of the laborer in the face of these inequalities.

Even the pseudo-economists must know that profits have increased far more rapidly than wages. This was primarily the thing that that made Mr. Roosevelt veto the anti-strike legislation of recent date. The wreck-Roosevelt is an attempt to wreck labor and the Negroes of this country. The sooner labor realizes that its fortunes and the Negroes' are inseparably linked, the sooner they are going to meet at the ballot box and do something about the wreck-Roosevelt movement that is rising like a threatening tide in this nation.

THE ANTI-ELEANOR CAMPAIGN

So intent are the Roosevelt wreckers in bringing about the President's downfall that they are concentrating their fury on Mrs. Roosevelt. They are fighting on all fronts. If they cannot wreck Roosevelt any other way they are proposing to wreck his capable and resourceful wife whose like this world has not seen. Blame for the Detroit and Harlem riots are being placed at her doors. Mark Ethridge was pointed in his denouncement of such allegation. Jackson Davis of the General Education Board calls the charge "absurd." Mrs. Roosevelt is not this coutnry's malefoctor, but its benefactor just by reason of the fact she is trying to make democracy a living thing. Long live the Roosevelts. Labor will meet these Roosevelts-wreckers at the ballot box. What about the Negroes?

JUL 24 1943

The Democratic Party Belongs To Democrats

Cullman, Ala. Democrat
September 9, 1943

The "white South" for generations has sheltered the Democratic Party and has fought, often alone, to preserve it as a great national force. The "white South" has preserved its ideals and principles which was its foundation, its reason for being, its appeal to the thinking people of this nation.

Now, as never before, it is the privilege and the duty of every real Southern Democrat to do all within his or her power to safeguard the party from dangerous encroachments, from infiltration of groups which seek to destroy the very principles for which Southern Democrats have so valiently fought through the years.

The Democratic Party's motto under the emblem of the crowing rooster, is "White Supremacy." Forces, well recognized, are now out to destroy this foundation stone of the party in the South. An attempt is being made to mongrelize the Democratic Party, by conversion of the negro voters who were formerly found under the Republican banner, into "Democratic" leaders. Their reward for becoming "Democrats" is to force racial social equality upon the South.

Another venerable foundation stone of the Democratic Party is state's rights. The utter destruction of this party principle is well underway, through the continual seizure of power from the states by the Federal government. This destruction is being systematically supervised by men whom call themselves "Democrats," while they ruthlessly destroy the very principles which made our party great and enabled it to survive through the years.

The so-called "New Deal" has attracted elements utterly foreign to and destructive to the Democratic Party of the South. All manner of "isms" are working within the party's framework under the guise of "progressive movements" to smash the ideals of Southern Democracy.

Majority rule is the cardinal principle of Democracy. Certainly however it should be majority rule of real Democrats. Majority rule through the intrusion of groups and elements such as political machines of the Kelley-Nash, Hague, John Lewis stripe, is not majority rule of the Democratic Party by a majority of real Democrats.

Sad to relate, some Democrats and of course, some politicians seeking office or perpetuation in office in the Democratic South seem willing to sit calmly by and see their party become proselyted without protest—without a qualm. The latter are thinking of course only in terms of votes, not of the welfare of their party.

The titular head of the National Democratic Party, President Roosevelt, has openly opposed the election of regularly nominated Democrats. He supported Hiram Johnson, Republican nominee for senator from California against the Democratic nominee. He sent aid to and supported George Norris, Republican and later Independent candidate for the senate against the regularly nominated Democratic candidate. He has openly avowed that he has voted for Republicans in general elections.

Yet, most of we white Southern Democrats prefer to remain in the party ranks, because the Democratic Party is our party and because we are determined to preserve its principles from the enemies who would bore from within, and drive them out. Appeals from candidates who use the party as a vehicle on which to ride into office and power, under plea of "be loyal to the party," while they swallow every "ism", every attack on the venerable principles of the party without batting an eye, are hypocritical and such pleas utterly without appeal when coming from such sources.

The Democratic Party is worth fighting for. Democrats are fighting for their party when they oppose radical efforts to destroy the party's foundation and integrity. The Democrats of the South will never accept negro political leadership to the slightest degree, nor will they accept social equality with negroes. Progress within and by the party can be made without destruction of Democratic principles. The Democratic Party is the party of white Southern Democrats. Let us fight to preserve it and protect it from radicalism and from politicians who care nothing for it other than using it as a means of obtaining and remaining in power and in office.

Hint Liberalism Of Roosevelts May Lose Solid South'

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

52d

APR 17 1943

WASHINGTON, April 15—(ANP)—Quietly, governors of six Southern states assembled recently to discuss the future of the Negro, Democratic party, and the "Solid South." In attendance were the governors of Florida, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina and Louisiana. They met in Tallahassee, Fla., and in a united front solidly opposed the New Deal and all that it stands for in progress and human relations.

They vociferously asserted that Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt was the "chief offender" and they wanted some definite understanding as to the future.

DISLIKE LIBERALISM

Chief sore spot irritating the governors was the attitude of the New Deal toward the Negro problem which was particularly vexing

preferred the GOP candidate, Herbert Hoover, to Al Smith. They based their desertion on rum, religion and Tammany Hall domination. But they have decided now that the presidency has the "Solid South" split and gone over to the Republicans. Then the states of the Republicans are of the same calicans or string along with the New Deal, the group decided to do nothing about endorsing the policies of the present administration until it had another meeting.

Not since 1928, when Al Smith was the Democratic candidate for the jump. But they also feel that at present the New Deal and the is party align with the Republi-

Undecided whether they wanted to form a new Southern Democrat-

nied.

PEPPER "STORMED"

This one problem has arisen as the chief fault with Roosevelt and his administration. The governors said as much to Senator Pepper, a staunch supporter of the administration. Pepper made a stirring speech before an open meeting and then was taken inside for a private conference. Here the governors grilled the senator mercilessly.

"The South for 75 years stood by the Democratic party," said Gov. Sam H. Jones of Louisiana, "because of the party stand on state's rights, tariff and race relations. These reasons are gone. There is no material difference in the treatment of the race problem by the Republican party and the present Democratic party."

SUGGESTS "SECESSION"

Former Gov. Frank Dixon of Alabama suggested the "secession" of the "Solid South" from the New Deal and the establishment of a Solid South Democratic party.

Nothing was accomplished in this matter, but Senator Pepper reportedly was given a message for the President that if the latter wanted the support of the "Solid South," he had better start talking like the boys want him.

Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt Gives Views On Unity At Home And Victory Abroad

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri
SEP 24 1943

New York City is my City. I was born in this City; my childhood was largely spent here. I went away in the Summers, but all of my education up to the age of 15 was carried on in New York City. After that age I lived away at different times for long periods of time, but I never came back without the feeling that I am coming home and this is the place where I belong.

I've spent many hours visiting the beautiful things of this City, its museums, its churches, its cathedrals, its picture galleries, its shops. I love to stand on a rainy day and look down Fifth avenue, and on a clear night I love to come across the Bay and see the lights go on in all of New York City's buildings. I like to fly over the City and see it as panorama below, and I like to visit the different sections, each one of which has a flavor of some different nationality.

I have grieved over the City's slums, but I have visited them, I have regretted it when I felt that we were lagging behind in making our public school system better year by year, or that we did not have playgrounds enough for our children, or that we were not doing a good enough job on public health. But, good or bad. I've loved and still do love this City, with its people, black, white, yellow, brown; some of them new-comers, some of them having lived here a long while though never quite casting off the country of their birth, some of them descended from ancestors who may have come over in the Mayflower; all of them human beings and citizens of a great metropolis.

One Race, One Religion Does Not Make Nation Great

I should like to congratulate our Mayor who has one of the most important jobs to be done in our nation. He has accomplished a great deal while he has been Mayor and I hope he will continue his interest in the children and in the young people as well as in the other citizens, and see to it that those who cannot protect themselves are well taken care of. He likes to set a precedent established here in this City which has been the first to welcome so many new citizens, that those who need protection can get it from their Government.

Now we, in this City, face grave responsibility. What we do will make a pattern for many other people in many other parts of the country. It is quite true that New York City is not exactly representative of the United States as a whole, but many people all over the United States look at what happens in New York City and are influenced by it, whether they live in a small town in Kansas, or on the coast of Maine or California. Here, in minature is the melting pot—the place where people who formerly were citizens of every country in the world are becoming citizens of the United States. Here they learn that a nation can be great because it is bound together by an idea that the nation does not have to be of one race of one religion but its people do have to believe that there are a few things worth living for and worth dying for and those beliefs are what create unity and make us a nation.

No Race Or Color Superior

We, as a nation, believe that every man has a right to worship God in his own way and so there is discrimination before the Law in this country for any man, because of his religion. It states in our Constitution that all men are created equal. We do not mean by that with the same powers or places him in the same environments; we mean that in the eyes of the Creator, who knows all there is to know about human beings, every man has an equal chance to prove himself if he uses his ability as well as his environment will allow. We are not the judges of what makes men equal, but we of all people should not say that the people of one race or of one color are better than any others. Our concern is that every race and every color and every human being shall have an equal opportunity to develop in each generation to the limits of their ability. We will have bad people among us, but they will not be all black or all gentile of all Jew; there will be fewer bad people as justice and economic and educational opportunities are opened to all.

We fight a war today sending our men to the far corners of the world and the principal thing for which we fight are involved in these questions at home. If the Axis powers were to win, there would be no freedom anywhere in the world. We think it worth sacrificing our lives and the lives of those whom we love to prevent slavery and preserve the host of real democracy upon the earth. How illogical we will be at we do not watch our own attitude and wipe out of our own hearts whatever causes a lack of unity among our own citizens.

Unity at Home—Victory Abroad

Our slogan is, "Unity at Home—Victory Abroad." So this thing wherever we live in this great country we must find a way to give to all of our citizens the essential things that spell freedom in a great democracy, because only thus can we justify the sacrifices of our boys thruout the world. Here at home there are specific things that we can do—we can make up our minds that we will work with any other human being who does his daily work besides us, and that we will not inquire as to his race or religion, only as to whether he's doing an honest job. We can make up our minds that we will behave with courtesy to those about us and ask only that they will believe in the same way and allow us to go about our business undisturbed. We can decide that in public conveyances where each one of us pays for a seat we will not look askance at our neighbors, no matter what his race or his religion. This same rule holds good in places of public entertainment which are open to all citizens, and where we all have paid our money and go in on an equal basis.

What we do in our homes is an individual thing, and eaih one of us can decide for ourselves. However, if we observe the rules of kindness and courtesy at all times to all men I think w will go far forward making our own City a good place in which to live and of such fair repute that we need never be ashamed. Our slogan will thus become a reality —one people joined together for Victory—at home and abroad.



ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

Dems Maneuver For Candidates

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

In Harlem Area

Republicans Have Caught Democrats Asleep In Moves

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Political significance was attached to the recent brief visit of Herbert Bruce, leader of the Democrats in the 21st Assembly district in New York. Bruce was in Washington Thursday evening for a conference which may have some bearing on whether the Democrats will nominate a Negro congressman from the 21st district and a Negro judge to run for the city court, something they have not yet done.

The Republicans have taken the bull by the horns and thrown a terrific challenge into the Tammany camp by naming a Negro to a judgeship and backing him for nomination and election in November. This has completely caught the Democrats sleep at the switch and they are now frantically trying to offset the inroads a vote getter would make in their solid Harlem front. Bruce says the situation is bad from the Democratic veiwpoint later with Edgar G. Brown, he said he felt something would come of it. The Democrats have never named a Negro for congress from this District, although it is the heaviest populated district in the city.

In both this and the 19th district, Reps. Sol Bloom in the latter and Joseph Gavagan in the 21st, have held their seats at the expense of Negro votes.

Mr. Bloom, a member of the foreign affairs committee, and a devout student of George Washington, is either too far removed being concerned with foreign affairs, or too far back, delving into Washingtonia, pay much attention to his Negro constitutents, they claim.

Mr. Gavagan, besides introducing the anti-lynch bill, has little else to his credit and is rarely available in Washington for his voters who are [illegible] and wish to see him, it is charged.

Bruce would have little to day, visiting upper Washington between train time. But he did admit that the GOP had pulled a fsat one on Temmany and something would have to be done very quickly to show what Tammany means.

Rumors and hints are afloat that either Charles E. Toney or James S. Watson would be named by the party to run in the elections for the city judgeship against Francis E. Rivers, whom the Republicans have named and whom they are endorsing for the post which pays $17,500. Both Toney and Watson are old Democratic standbys, being the first [illegible] judge elected. However, the latter has named as many Negroes to the bench and they have acquitted themselves creditably. The four are Myles A. Paige, Jane Bolin, Hubert Delany and Mrs. Rosseeve Wallace said Mrs. Roosevelt mis-

Statement

In a letter appearing in the Columbia Record Monday, former quoted him and that he had re- called at the meeting before white farmers that some years ago they of the State Supreme used to say certain people would denied vote the Democratic ticket "even Eugene S. Blease, if they put a Yellow Dog on it." said at Sardis in Saluda The judge re-stated his opposi- Friday that white tion to Negroes voting in the Democratic primary. ought to vote the ticket "even if they put after to The Record and lavishly cratic yellow dog on it." condemned

Dog" Judge E. S. Blease Retracts "Yellow

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

52d-1943

Jitterbugging?—Er, Nope

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md



FEB 6 1943

Nope, Mrs. Roosevelt isn't dancing. She is just reaching to shake hands on the run with Shep Allen on the stage of the Howard Theatre in Washington after he presented her to a birthday celebration audience Friday night. FF

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

FIRST LADY FLAYS RACE SEGREGATION

Tells Stand On Air Corps Jim Crow In Interview With Defender

MAY 1 1943

In unequivocal terms, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, first lady of the land, gave her personal philosophy of real democracy when she said, "I think that Negroes should be admitted anywhere any other Americans are admitted."

This declaration came in answer to a specific question among a series concerning race problems posed by Defender reporters upon her arrival at Metropolitan church last Monday night.

A reporter had asked "Do you think that Negroes should be admitted to the air corps without segregation?" Without a moment's hesitation, she replied in broad terms, not confining her condemnation of segregation just to the air corps.

Another Defender correspondent queried, "Does the Negro's insistence for democratic rights impede the war effort?" She answered with an emphatic, "No!"

She took a sporting crack at the Negro press and at the same time disavowed any intention of appeasing the South in answering an inquiry as to her reason for commenting favorably in "My Day" on Warren "Bandana" Brown's article which hit at both race leaders and the press.

She had been asked if her comment represented an administration strategy to appease the South. "My comment didn't represent any strategy of the administration, but it more or less represented my own opinion," she answered.

All during the interview photographers' bulbs flashed, newsreel men ground away, and a throng of admirers milled around her, but they didn't seem to blunt the short snappy quips for which she is famous when discussing problems with newsmen.

Mrs. Roosevelt agreed that now is as good time as any for Negro leaders to push their demand for equality of opportunity in political, economic and cultural fields. She declared, "I think it is most certainly a time for your leaders to express whatever is important to them."

By this statement she showed she does not agree with those critics of Negro leadership who claim that demands for equal rights contribute to disunity.

In answer to a query on anti-poll-tax legislation she stated that she has always been for it and against the evil system which disfranchises 13 million citizens.

Democratic (Mrs. Roosevelt)

THE VITAL ISSUE

Last week we referred to a responsible Washington source, which reported that Democratic leaders had persuaded Mrs. R. to lay off the negro meetings until after the election. That was all wrong, as she went right straight on to New York to speak on the vicious Southern poll tax. The meeting apparently was a mixed group, since one of the attendants complained that he was very much down-in-the-mouth as to the *cause*, because he had been bitterly discriminated against on a recent visit to South Carolina. Mrs. R. also reported that after her speeches on the *cause* she frequently received letters from the South labeling her Public Enemy No. 1. Frank R. Kent (who is a Republican, and accordingly to be watched) says that the New Deal high command, instead of holding back, has encouraged Mrs. R.'s stirring of the race question. It gets the Northern negro vote, and states like 99 per cent South Carolina and Mississippi are just suckers to the magic name of Democrat, and will swallow anything. We do not believe that. We have swallowed a lot, but not outside interference with our racial problems. We suffered too much in 1868 to 1876 to permit that.

First Lady at Union Meet

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md



When Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt addressed the meeting of the C.I.O. and A.F. of L. Committee of Women in the War, in N.Y.C. last week, she received a copy of "Negro Caravan" from Miss Daisy George, representative of Hotel and Club Employees' Union, Local No. 6. as seen above.

Birmingham Post
Birmingham, Ala.



MY DAY

BY ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

HYDE PARK, N. Y., Wednesday—I have just read the August copy of "New Threshold." I must confess to feeling extremely humble, for not until I read my own article did I realize that I had not caught a typographical error in the proof in the very first sentence. The incident which I used in the opening paragraph was, of course, one that appeared in the paper, when a sailor stood up in the gallery of Congress, after listening to a lengthy debate, and demanded to know: "Are we fighting the Civil War all over again?"

I would not be guilty of pinning this remark on any senator, and I have asked the editor of "New Threshold" to make this correction in the next issue. The fault was entirely mine. The error was in my copy and I did not notice it in proofreading. I suppose when things are firmly fixed in one's mind, one's eyes can see without seeing, but I apologize to those I maligned.

I am quite sure that many people who had read of the other incident in the papers must have realized my mistake but I cannot let it go without this public apology.

Some people have written me to ask me if I was advocating mixed marriages and I would like to make it clear that I would never advocate this. It seems to me that in the mixing of racial strains, the difficulties which always exist in any marriage are greatly enhanced. Races will mix, however, even in this country, we see evidences of this mixture. Whether it has occured in wedlock or not, makes little difference from the biologist's standpoint, because over the centuries a

JUL 29 1943

us will be able to do any-in this way can we live side by side that eventually all of us learn to live
bout. Nothing should ever in peace and good will. Our desire according to the ideal life that o
from advocating, however, must be for equal justice and we Jesus Christ.
aces that come together ask now, no matter to what sects and
ur Lord and Master that we religions we belong, that most of us
ughout the world, equal acknowledge that God made us all.
and equal opportunity. Only Therefore, he must have intended



MRS. FDR ENTERTAINS KIDDIES

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt came to Harlem last week (via the subway just as you and I) and was a guest at "The History of Harlem" pageant in the auditorium of Public School 194, at 242 W 144th Street. Shown above, she's speaking to an attentive child audience.

JUN 26 1943

First Lady Rides Subway To Harlem

People's Voice
New York, N.Y.

JUN 5 1943

Evidently there was no illusion Harlem folks saw walking thru 144th street Tuesday morning. It was the "First Lady" herself, strolling along, accompanied by another woman, making her way to P. S. 194. She had promised to attend the school's Negro History pageant and she wasn't letting the gas shortage stop her.

Quite unperturbed by the flurry of excitement she caused entire to the school, Mrs. Roosevelt told Daniel Krane, principal of the school, that she had ridden the 8th avenue subway and had enjoyed the trip to Harlem. She had walked from 145th and St. Nicholas avenue to the school at 260 W. 144th street.

The children of the school were presenting a pageant tracing the development of legendary Harlem from Indian days to the present.

MRS. ROOSEVELT—WOMAN NO. 1

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

JUN 26 1943

One fine word ought to be said about Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, and be repeated often.

She has been the most progressive, enthusiastic and beloved First Lady ever to occupy the White House. At the same time, these qualities, so greatly admired by millions of Americans, have brought her the blind, unreasoning hate of a minority which blames her for everything from a shortage of domestic help to riots in Detroit.

Sometimes this noisy minority is so loud that it creates the impression that it is important. It is merely a nuisance.

Throughout, Mrs. Roosevelt has kept her temper and her dignity. She has not replied in kind. She has not changed her liberal course. She has not ceased to argue vigorously for it.

Never in our memory has the nation had a White House mistress typifying so many high qualities of American womanhood.

Mrs. Roosevelt Dedicates Hotels for War Workers

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

JUN 26 1943

MAY 27 1943

Washington—Climaxing a tour of war housing projects in the nation's capital, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt officially dedicated Wake and Midway Halls, new residence hotels for Negro women war workers in the northeast section of Washington, D. C., Tuesday evening, May 18.

Earlier in the evening the First Lady inspected Lucy D. Slowe Hall, residence hotel for Negro women and George Washington Carver Hall, residence hotel for Negro men. Both halls are located in the northwest section of the city.

Addressing several hundred war workers already living in Wake and Midway Halls, and a representative audience of visitors, Mrs. Roosevelt declared:

Speaks

"The difference between a democracy and a totalitarian state is that a democracy serves the people while the people serve the state in countries where a dictator rules. The erection of these war-time housing projects is evidence of democracy serving the people. We need more such projects but we are making a step is the right direction."

The dedication program included a group of songs by Roland Hayes, noted tenor and several musical selections by the Women's Glee club of Howard University. W. E. Reynolds, Public Works Administrator for the District of Columbia, served as master of ceremonies.

Speakers at the dedication included Congressman J. Harry McGregor, Republican of Ohio; Baird Snyder, Assistant Federal Works Administrator; Herbert Emmerich, Commissioner of the Federal Public Housing Authority, and Samuel Plato, builder of Wake and Midway halls. Mr. Plato called attention to increasing opportunities for Negroes in industry and government and declared that Negroes were succeeding in many new fields.

Following the dedication, Miss Mae G. Hawes and Miss W. Gertrude Brown, resident managers of Wake and Midway Halls respectively, served as hostesses at an informal reception.

More than 700 women war workers will be housed in Wake and Midway Halls when all accommodations are filled. The Lucy D. Slowe Hall houses 322 Negro women war workers, and the George Washington Carver Hall has accommodations for 205 Negro male war workers.

EXPLAINS ZOOT SUIT PROBLEM

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

JUL 2 1943

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 24—(ANP)—The zoot-suit riots in Los Angeles are the result of "a mixture of race and youth problems," Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt told her press conference last week. The attitude towards Mexicans in Southern California, she said, has long been a source of worry to her. She declared that Americans must sooner or later face the fact that "we have a race problem."

Her remarks came less than 24 hours after Representative John Rankin of Mississippi had told the House that "a badge of distinction" ought to be awarded to the servicemen who participated in the attacks on Mexicans and Negroes in the zoot-suit outbreaks. In his proposal to Congress to honor violence with a medal, Rankin tried as usual to link up his argument with un-Americanism.

Mrs. Roosevelt Lists Freedoms For Home Fight

Says All Men Must Have Equal Opportunity

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Continuing her preachments for equality for all peoples, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt has listed four freedoms to fight for on the home front in addition to those already advocated by her husband, the President. Writing in the second issue of the magazine, The New Threshold, official organ of the United States Stuednt Assembly, under the topic, "Abolish Jim Crow," Mrs. Roosevelt stressed:

"Equality before the law, which assures us of justice without prejudice, for Jew or Gentile; for any race or color, as far as human beings can obtain justice.

"Equality of education for every one, because of the need for an equal opportunity in life.

ECONOMIC FIELD

"Equality in the economic field, which means we are so organized in our communities and in our system of economics that all men who want to work will have work and that work will be suited to their capacity and will be rewarded without prejudice.

Finally, because we believe in the democratic and republic form of government, by which we are governed through the consent of the governed, we must give to all the citizens of a democracy a chance for equality of expression. We believe there should be no impediment which prevents any man from expressing his will through the ballot."

Madeline Butler, editor of the publication, said that the caption of the article was her own and not Mrs. Roosevelt's, who is a member of the advisory board of the organ. The Threshold was organized last May and at its first convention attended by Mrs. Roosevelt bared

JUL 2 1943

Mrs. Roosevelt declared that "we SETTLE THEMSELVES

52d-1943
World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

DEMOCRATIC(MRS. ROOSEVELT)

By Eleanor Roosevelt
My Day

FEB 13 1943

WASHINGTON, Friday.—This is Lincoln's Birthday and, following the custom of the past 10 years, the President drove down to the Lincoln Memorial for the very simple ceremonies which are always held there at noon. I went with him and we watched the wreath being carried up the long flight of steps and heard the national anthem played. I often wonder if the spirits of Lincoln and Washington have hovered over all the war Presidents since their day.



In the White House, itself, one is very conscious of the way that Lincoln must have suffered in the War Between the States. One can easily imagine him gazing out of the windows toward the river and listening to the sound of the firing in the distance.

* * *

Woodrow Wilson, an historian, must have been very conscious of the burdens that Lincoln and Washington carried. Perhaps Jefferson's trials and tribulations touched him even more deeply, for it was the philosophy of Jefferson which inspired the thinking of the Democratic party from that day to this.

The President also has the historical approach I think, toward the events of the day. Perhaps only to deal with the present one should not have knowledge, but a real feeling for the men and circumstances of the past. It must add to one's perspective and make it possible to be more objective in all of one's decisions.

* * *

Sunday, the 14th of February, is not just St. Valentine's Day, though to many people that will undoubtedly loom as most important. It is the climax of Negro History Week, and the Assn. for the Study of Negro Life and History holds its annual breakfast on that day.

It is important for all of us to know the story of the people of the United States as a whole, and every minority group has contributed toward the making of our nation. The Negroes have done much for our country. There are no wars in which they have not participated. Their poets, writers, artists, musicians, educators and scientists have contributed to the culture and development of the people.

Mrs. FDR Visits Fort Des Moines

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Meets And Chats With Race Waacs

FEB 26 1943

By CHAS. P. HOWARD

DES MOINES, Iowa—(SNS)—Fort Des Moines, Iowa—(HNS)—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt visited Fort Des Moines last Sunday. She saw more than 4,400 WAACs march in review. She dined in the consolidated mess where she was served southern fried chicken, mashed potatoes, frozen green peas, giblet dressing, green salad, ice cream and coffee.

She gave five talks, some prepared and some informal. She had a press conference, and to the delight of officers and auxiliaries alike, she visited the colored WAAC's in their dining room, their quarters and their company headquarters. She beamed with pride as she headed the inspection party of some twenty members followed by the press and photographers numbering about 35.

It was a miserable day, being what native Iowans call about zero, but many a gal from Florida and Louisiana would have bet her fifty bucks per month that it was ten below if it was day time. Especially was this true when the parade was formed of a select group including the 8th Company (colored.) However(so proud were they to march for the First Lady, and so high did they hold their heads, that even Iowa zero weather couldn't bring a tear to a single eye or cause the running of a single nose.

FEB 26 1943

Before sitting down for her noon meal, Mrs. Roosevelt and her party made an inspection tour of the spacious consolidate mess which feeds more than 2,000 per hour. The 15th Officer Candidate class was being fed at this time and Mrs. Roosevelt was photographed with Officer Candidate Ann M. Clark of Lawrenceburg, Kentucky, now Third Officer Ann M. Clark, (she was commissioned last Tuesday,) the only colored member of that class.

Following lunch Mrs. Roosevelt inspected quarters of two companies of Officer Candidates and immediately left for Boom Town, the area occupied by auxiliaries. Her first stop in Boom Town was at the 8th Company (colored.) The party alighted from their cars and proceeded to the company headquarters. On arriving Mrs. Roosevelt was introduced to Second Officer Geneva Ferguson of Camp Dennison, Ohio, commanding the 8th Company, Second Officer Sarah Murphy of Atlanta, Georgia, Third Officer Ruth E. Caldwell, Orangeburg, S. C., First Sergeant Margaret E. Charity of Richmond, Va., and Sergeant Eve Cunningham of Chicago, Ill.

Following the introductions the inspection party was formed with First Sergeant Charity preceding the inspection group which moved to the 8th Company barracks with Mrs. Roosevelt accompanied by Mayor J. Fowler, commander of the 14th Training Regiment, in the lead. During the inspection of the 8th Company baracks, Mrs. Roosevlt stopped to shake hands and chat a few moments with Lieut. Alma O. Berry, Houston, Texas, and commend her on the neatness of the quarters and the soldier-like bearing of the auxiliaries of her platoon. After leaving the quarters visits were made to the 8th Company dining room and day room. The inspection over, Mrs. Roosevelt returned to the company quarters, bade all of the company officers and non-comms assembled there good-bye and expressed great pleasure over having met them and having seen their organization.

Following the tour of inspection Mrs. Roosevelt reveiwed the parade and then went to the post theatre where she gave a formal address to the 1,440 WAACs assembled there.

FEB 26 1943

At 6:00 p. m. Mrs. Roosevelt held a press conference at the Officer's Club. Prior to her arrival, Second Officer Anne McIllhenney, Public Relations officer for the WAACs at Fort Des Moines, set up the press conference and distributed copies of the address delivered at the post theatre. Mrs. Roosevelt appeared promptly at 6:00 o'clock accompanied by Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, director of the WAACs. She greeted the press with a cheery "How do you do, everybody?" Everybody was standing. "This is the press, Mrs. Roosevelt," said the Public Relations officer. "Yes," replied Mrs. Roosevelt, "I got it." She then proceeded to an unoccupied couch, sat down and said, "Now, will you go right ahead with your questions?"

The conference primarily dealt with Mrs. Roosevelt's recent visit to England. The First Lady touched on a number of topics concerning conditions in England and made these observations:

1. "If we want to maintain the standards we are used to, we are going to have to share more than we have shared. I don't think it will ever be the kind of life it used to be.

2. Continuation of women's organizations after the war will be determined by the usefulness that they show during the war."

In discussing the unimportance of material things Mrs. Roosevelt said;

1. "Women in England do things because there just aren't any men to do the job. In England there is no one on any farm who is not a man over 50 or a boy under 16 except women.

2. Personal service has disappeared. For the moment Lady So and So eats and sleeps next to Sarah Jane, and is doing her own housework. Everyone eats the same thing."

FEB 26 1943

Mrs. Roosevelt also observed in speaking of her trip to England that the American Negro engineers were the most proficient dock hands in England; that they beat the trained English dock hands; that they practiced against one another, and that these same Negro engineers—trained in London-were the ones who effected the American Army evacuation into Africa.

Besides her day on the Fort Mrs. Roosevelt addressed the auxiliaries taking specialist training down town at the coliseum in the city of Des Moines where a limited number of citizens was admitted, and at 9:00 o'clock she spoke to the student body at Drake University.

She departed Monday morning by plane southward for Kansas City in a snowstorm accompanied by Mrs. Hobby and her staff. Her remarks were, "I have had a delightful time. It has been wonderful to be here with you and see the work you are doing."

First Lady Defends American Negroes

Washington, March 1 (AP)—With Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt among the speakers, the Mutual Broadcasting System has inaugurated a series of weekly broadcasts dedicated to telling the story of America's 13,000,000 Negroes.

MAR 1943

Mrs. Roosevelt said that "You and I have always agreed, as good American citizens, that given the ability to perform any kind of work, every man should have an opportunity to exercise his skill of head or hand and that finally when a citizen could meet certain universal qualifications he was entitled to take part in the government of his country."

Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina and a member of the War Labor Board, declared "the American answer to differences in color and creed is not a concentration camp but co-operation."

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
May 29 1943

PRAISE FOR MRS. ROOSEVELT

Editor, The Journal: A word of praise for Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt for her stanch and loyal support of the colored race of the United States of America!

I am a Southerner, but whenever I read or hear the prejudicial and unrestrained remarks of some bigoted Southerners concerning the Negroes of this country I am reminded of Hitler and his followers with their persecution of the Jews. There is no wisdom in this castigation. The Negroes are Americans and loyal to their government. They are dying on the battlefields today for these same agitators who sow discord and challenge their loyalty at home. The fortitude and endurance of this race has never been suffocated by poverty, humbly they accept—and proudly march on—working for America with a song in their hearts that seek no pulsance of the world—that jeopardizes no person's rightful heritage.

I don't think the prestige of these prevaricators of the true facts would be injured if they crept out of their intellectual dullness and gave the colored race some well-deserved

MRS. ROSE WATTS.
469 Tenth Street, N. W.

CLAIM MRS. ROOSEVELT SNUBS "SOLID SOUTH"

Guardian

Boston, Mass.

MINGLING WITH COLORED CREATING "POLITICAL ISSUE"

MAY 8 1943

By MABE KOUNTZE

Boston's Bill Cunningham (writing from Georgia) in the Sunday Herald of April 25th, has recorded the current southern attitude toward the friendly mingling of races in America. Bill notes the following:

MAY 8 1943

"The racial subject is always considered real in the south and Mrs. Roosevelt hasn't done the New Deal any good in these parts by stirring it up with her visits and such. Careful investigation proves she's been the victim of some brazen lies in this general connection.

MAY 8 1943

"Walks With Colored"

"Such stories that she has turned her back on white welcoming committees in southern towns and walked with colored welcomers are the absolute bunk, according to editor Ralph McGill of the Atlanta Constitution who made it his business to find out, but the stories have spread far and wide through the south. So has the one about the 'Eleanor Clubs' which McGill likewise stamps as completely untrue, but the President's wife's 'meddling with the Colored question' is deeply resented in these parts. . . ."

What a lot of tripe this must seem to colored and white men at the front, fighting for the "democracy" that is this day being repudiated by the south—even to the extent of attacking America's First Lady for her brave and courageous efforts to establish genuine democracy there.

MAY 8 1943

The southern "Color problem" (like a good many other overpublicized sectional - superiorities) is going to be a mighty small item before long. Mrs. Roosevelt has vision enough to realize this fact.

So will the south, before this war is forgotten.

MAY 8 1943

Japs Quote Dixie

Some months ago I wrote notice to Washington that the so-called "southern unrest" was actually being aided and abeted by Axis agents. The prevalent saying today that the "south is more interested in keeping the colored people in their place than in winning the war" is a very juicy morsel of advantage to the Germans. It can prove very distrous to the Allied cause if allowed to spread to the ears of the non-aryan armies of the

Claim Mrs Roosevelt—Cont 2..

United Nations. Japan is already using these stories on the vast dark populations of Asia in efforts to array all Asiatics against the Americans. The southern attacks against Mrs. Roosevelt for her efforts to eliminate the suicidal source of this race evil is added fuel to the Jap influence. Southerners are helping Japan in their ignorant efforts to retard colored Americans. It amazingly bears out Booker T. Washington's famous prediction of many years ago.

Race Stood By President

To emphasize the utter un-Americanisms connected with this current Nazi inspired "split-the-country, program, Bill Cunningham's revelations of certain southern opposition to the President and Mrs. Roosevelt are only part of the story, a story far bigger than the comparatively insignificant po[illegible] aspects that Cunningham emphasized in the Sunday Herald. The John L. Lewis incident of the week was not exactly a patriotic gesture. Many true Americans unknowingly play into Axis hands. It is a source of pride to colored citizens that the Nat'l Colored Council declared its unequivocal support to President Roosevelt during the recent strike of the United Mine workers. Said the Colored Council:

"Colored workers must stand or fall on the incontestable and absolute power of the government and the Constitution."

Since more than half of the white mine workers obeyed the President it is believed that most of 100,000 colored were also on the job. How can certain southerners brand such people like these as being "radicals" disloyal to our country? The facts prove the lie!

MAY 8 1943

Case of First Lady

To those not acquainted with the southern "case" against Mrs. Roosevelt here are some of her amazing "crimes:"

(1) Mrs. Roosevelt resigned from the Daughters of the American Revolution when that organization refused equal citizen rights to Miss Marian Anderson, internationally famous and American born singer.

(2) Mrs. Roosevelt has stood steadfast with Dr. Mary Bethune in efforts to improve educational and social conditions among colored—in spite of malicious "red" charges against Dr. Bethune (by certain southerners!)

(4) Mrs. Roosevelt has met leaders of other races on "equal footing," including the charming First Lady of China, Madame Chiang Kai-Shek.

(5) The South does not approve of these "racial crimes!"

(6) Mrs. Roosevelt is charged with "meddling" with "southern democracy."

"We Must Examine Ourselves," Says Mrs. Roosevelt

Weekly Review

Birmingham, Ala.—

We Rise Together Or We Fall Together — Mrs. Roosevelt

April 10, 1943

CHICAGO, April—(ANP)—More than 3,000 people turned out Monday evening to catch a glimpse of and hear the two leading ladies of the land, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, at the Metropolitan Community church.

The occasion was a benefit gathering for Bethune-Cookman college in Florida, founded by Mrs. Mary Bethune and of which Mrs. Roosevelt is a trustee.

"We rise together or we fall together," the First Lady told the audience. Later in speaking of the war situation, she recalled that "in the last war we talked of making the world safe for democracy, of fighting a war to end war, but we did not take it in the sense we do today. We didn't, during the war think out the kind of world we want, discuss the methods for building it, emphasizing that throughout the world were people who had the same aspirations and the same rights to aspire to a new world."

Mrs. Roosevelt also called the fact that in every speech made by Mrs. Chiang Kai-shek, "she has stressed the rights of all other peoples.

"We have got to examine ourselves and know that we are working for peace in the world. Peace is not made by signing a paper. All the peace conferences are only the foundation on which we build. This means that all individuals have really got to work for peace. One basis of peace is respect for human beings as human beings. I hope that whenever we see oppression of anyone we are going to stamp it out," said Mrs. Roosevelt.

The audience paid homage to Mrs. Roosevelt in flowers and in songs, but in the midst of it all The First Lady kept knowledge of the fact that another great woman was worthy of much praise, and so she lauded the work of Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, no director o fNegro activities for the NYA.

Mrs. Bethune advised the listeners to "keep your feet on the ground, keep your heads steady and keep your feet in the plowed soil, and you'll attain your goal."

The advice was taken from a speech made about Mrs. Bethune by President Roosevelt who said, "She has her feet on the ground—she even has them in plowed soil."

Peoples Voice

New York, N. Y.

MAY 29 1943

'First Lady' Makes Poll Tax Appeal

With the poll tax ready for a test vote in the House, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt made a last-minute appeal for its abolition. Speaking at the annual city-wide observance of Negro History Week last Sunday in New York city, she said the repeal of the poll tax would be of benefit not only for the colored people but for all people.

The two test votes in the House on Monday indicated the treatment the bill was to receive. The first vote registered 268 *for* and 110 *against*; the second vote registered 265 to 105.

In the same speech Mrs. Roosevelt called for equal justice before the law for all races, equality of opportunity, equality of employment and decent living conditions, and the privilege of all citizen sto participate in government.

The first lady said: "There should not be German communities, Scandinavian communities, and other communities of foreign born. There should be just American communities."

MAY 29 1943

Mark Starr of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union urged the AFL to use its influence to eliminate jimcrowism in the few unions that still practice it.

Assemblyman William T. Andrews said he found Southern Negroes, during his recent trip to South Carolina "despondent, without hope and with little fight in them."

Kansas City Call

Kansas City, Mo.

FEB 19 1943

'First Lady' Mentions Negro at Columbia

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt who spoke here ortion. The "First Lady" said: Monday, Feb. 15, at the University

In a round table discussion with M. U. students, Mrs. Roosevelt was asked about the Negro question. The "First Lady" said: "It is one of the greatest problems, our heritage from the days of slavery and a problem which will take a long time to work out. should provide equality ation, equality of laws and ht to hold a job and the o participate in government, but we can't go much further than that without invading rights."

FEB 19 1943

By Eleanor Roosevelt

My Day

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

OCT 9 1943



HYDE PARK, Oct. 9.—Last night I went to speak at a bond rally sponsored by the American Federation of Negro College Students. I was impressed by the fact that this group had set out among their members throughout the country to raise the price of a Flying Fortress, which was to be the first Fortress manned by an interracial crew. I imagine, of course, this is to be a volunteer one.

More than $800,000 has already been raised, which means that the price of a Fortress is now in hand. This group of college students has a grave responsibility, because they are going to carry much of the work which must be done in the postwar world in co-operation with white citizens. The youth of all races today has difficult situations to solve.

I wonder if you were as much impressed as I was by a story which appeared in the paper recently. A reporter in Italy asked a Japanese-American soldier fighting in Italy with his group, many of them recruited in Honolulu, how they felt about being there. The boy is reputed to have said that he would have liked to take part in the war in the Pacific, but was glad to serve his country anywhere. Perhaps it was wise to have his group in Italy, because they bear such a resemblance to the Japanese that it might be confusing, but his attitude seems to me the perfect one.

OCT 9 1943

You are an American whether your features are those of a Japanese, whether you have Italian or German ancestry, are born or bred in this country, or are naturalized. You are an American and you take pride in "the American idea," which claims you as its own when you subscribe to the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

My Day

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

HYDE PARK, Thursday.—Someone, in print, not long ago admonished me to count my blessings for the years which have been spent in the White House. Perhaps Reflections on 10 Years in the White House might be both interesting and amusing, but they certainly would not be what the great majority of people probably would expect them to be.



* * *

In the Hudson Tube yesterday a sailor boy stopped in front of me and handed me a bill used to pay our armed forces in Sicily. The ribbon he wore told me he had just come back from active theater of war, and I was glad to sign his bill and to have a chance to talk to him for a few minutes.

My Day

Four of us went to tea Saturday afternoon with Mrs. Harry Hopkins. Of course, you must know by now that I love going over a newly furnished house, to see how people arrange their own surroundings. These old Georgetown houses lend themselves to interesting arrangements. You go up and down a step here, and a step there to different levels and it adds to their charm.



Mrs. Hopkins has a real gift for creating a charming interior, and the house already has an atmosphere of home, even though she and Diana have been in it for such a little while.

My last party for the M. P.s and antiaircraft artillery men came off Saturday night. I would like to pay a tribute to the young captain who gave me the names of all his men as they came along.

After I said goodnight to them I went up to the Shoreham Hotel, where the North Carolina Society was having its annual get-together. I said a few words to them and they presented Christmas gifts to the President and me. Mine has already gone to the Red Cross, with a request that they use it for hospital comforts in the Southwest Pacific. This was a very charming gesture on the part of the North Carolina Society, and I deeply appreciate it. I hope the society will have pleasure out of the disposition of their gift.

Yesterday I attended a ceremony in Philadelphia in honor of Miss Marian Anderson. In the evening I visited a number of canteens for servicemen in Brooklyn with Mr. and Mrs. Edwin B. Wilson.

* * *

A few days ago I received a booklet in the mail, on the Victory Center, America's clearing house for war-winning ideas. It is really an interesting plan.

A group of outstanding citizens of various professions and different political and social views financed the organization of Victory Center. They solicit no funds, but they plan to arrange and to finance worthwhile war-winning projects and ideas by patriotic firms and individuals.

If you have an idea you think will solve some difficulty you see ahead, send it in to Victory Center and you may be assured of expert consideration.

DEC 11 1943

This promises to be a busy day with a luncheon at the Architectural League, and the African dance festival in the evening. In between I hope to have a few people from the entertainment world at tea.

First Lady Chats with African Dancers



DEC 25 1943

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, sponsor and guest of honor at the African dance festival held Monday evening in Carnegie Hall, New York, shown during reception, chatting with W. Ozuomba Mbadiwe (center), head of the Academy of African Arts and Research, and Mbou Okike of Nigeria who came from Chicago. Both men are wearing native robes.

Mrs. FDR Gets Around

Amsterdam News New York, N. Y.

When Mrs. Roosevelt showed up in New Zealand last week, it surprised no one. For ever since this intrepid, courageous First Lady moved into the White House, she has set a dizzy pace of travel for any globe trotter ever born. She has actually blazed a trail by land, sea and air-utterly fearless, forever in quest of knowledge and always spreading goodwill cheer.

SEP 4 1943

Unlike all other First Ladies and most Presidents, Mrs. Roosevelt has not spent her time away from the White House with stuff shirt society leaders window dressing for that hapless group and ignoring the real problems of the world. On the other hand, she has visited coal miners' shacks, women's prisons, Negro schools, churches and meetings, trade union rallies. She has mingled with the people. And she has done it not as the First Lady but as one of them.

It goes without saying that her visit to New Zealand, Australia, and other South Pacific lands will create a better spirit among the thousands of American soldiers over there as well as a better feeling between those countries and the United States. We are particularly happy that Mrs. Roosevelt has made this long and dangerous trip, because we know she will visit American colored troops in the Far East and find out exactly how they are treated. Reports coming from there have indicated that all is not well so far as they are concerned. True to their prejudices, American white officers and enlisted men have taken U. S. racial prejudice to the Far East and thrust it down the throats of the people of that section and American colored troops whether they liked it or not.

SEP 4 1943

Although Mrs. Roosevelt hasn't any authority to abolish racial prejudice in the Army, nevertheless, you can bet your bottom dollar that she will speak out against it in the Far East and when she returns home. Somehow, we always feel that things will be better wherever Mrs. Roosevelt goes.

Mrs. F. D. R.—First Lady of the People's Century

The character of an individual can always be measured by the quality and quantity of his enemies. No other fact so undoubtedly proves the greatness of Eleanor Roosevelt than the growing number of her enemies.

Eleanor Roosevelt is not only [redacted] of the land, she is the First Lady of the White House who has brought with her as much love for the common people as has our President's wife. It may be that his hands are tied. It may be that the President must think twice before he acts on many issues. The truth of it is, however, that the man on the street thinks Mrs. Roosevelt a greater personality than her husband.

Her life is not a life of lip service. It is one that has put words into deeds. She has broken the undemocratic traditions of the White House and frequently welcomed as guests members of our minority. No platform is too small nor any occasion too humble that she will not grace it with her presence when it can be included in her over-crowded schedule.

It is a pleasure to see her come back to America from her world tour. We want to welcome her back to the finest town in the world—New York City. It is true that most of her time is spent in Wash[redacted]on, but this, after all, is her town and our town. We don't think she feels comfortable in the Nation's Capitol and neither do we. There are too many things there that represent the very philosophy that our boys are fighting against abroad.

So we welcome her home to New York, her town and ours—the People's Town. The place where democracy has reached its finest expression. We know that in this town there are many weaknesses, many defects; but we also know that the new Negro and the new white man will give any son of a Fascist that comes along a tough battle for his money.

Mrs. Roosevelt is the First Lady of the people's century and New York City is the last frontier town on the journey towards that century. New York is the port of the new world. Out of here will flow ideas and philosophies that will not cease until every vestige of yesterday's world shall have been torn down and the impregnable ramparts of a people's world have been built.

Negro people should be alert to the enemies of their friends. The same people that hate us oppress labor and go in for all the other unAmerican tactics of red-baiting and anti-Semitism. They are the ones who are forever sniping at Eleanor Roosevelt. These attacks are bound to increase as the guarantees of the people's world daily become more evident. Sometimes we sense signs of weakening on behalf of some of our friends. We urge them to stand firm and to grow in strength. Our race is neither weakening nor standing still, in fact, the New Negro is growing stronger.

Yes, the New Negro is growing stronger. We want Mrs. Roosevelt and all our other allies in labor, politics and minorities to know this and to grow with us.

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

OCT 16 1943

OCT 16 1943

OCT 16 1943

52d-1943

Mrs. Roosevelt Again Hits Jim-Crow in U. S.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.
JUL 23 1943

NEW YORK. — (ANP) — Continuing her preachments for equality for all peoples, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt has listed four freedoms to fight for on the home front in addition to those already advocated by her husband, the President.

Writing in the second issue of the magazine, The New Threshold, official organ of the United States Student Assembly, under the topic, "Abolish Jim Crow," Mrs. Roosevelt stressed:

"Equality before the law, which assures us of justice without prejudice, for Jew or Gentile; for any race or color, as far as human beings can obtain justice.

"Equality of education for everyone, because of the need for an equal opportunity in life.

Equality in Work

"Equality in the economic field, which means we are so organized in our communities and in our system of economics that all men who want to work will have work and that work will be suited to their capacity and will be rewarded without prejudice.

"Finally, because we believe in the democratic and republic form of government, by which we are governed through the consent of the governed, we must give to all the citizens of a democracy a chance for equality of expression. We believe there should be no impediment which prevents any man from expressing his will through the ballot."

Madeline Butler, editor of the publication, said that the caption of the article was her own and not Mrs. Roosevelt's who is a member of the advisory board of the organ. The Threshold was organized last May and at its first convention attended by Mrs. Roosevelt, barred Communists and Fascists from membership.

All Men Eual

Mrs. Roosevelt declared that "we fight for nothing of real value" unless we know that all men here have an equal opportunity. This equality, she contended, must extend to all peoples everywhere, but the job must be completed at home first.

"A great many people believe that there should be no intermingling of races," wrote the first lady. "Hitler has proved with bloody massacres that he holds this belief. Nevertheless, down through the ages, it has been proved over and over again that this is one of the questions people settle for themselves and no amount of legislation will keep them from doing so.

JUL 23 1943

"We would not have so many different shades of color in this country today if this were not so. This is a question, therefore, that I think we have to leave to individuals, not only over the United States, but all over the world, to handle.

JUL 23 1943

"There is no more reason to expect that there will be more intermarriage if the four fundamental basic rights of citizens are granted to all people in this country than there will be if they are withheld. In fact, I think it probable that there would be less."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Why South Hates First Lady

AUG 7 1943

Reading a recent article in a southern daily, I came across this statement. I believe it throws some light on why the South dislikes the famous First Lady. "The racial prejudice existing at this time is due to the wife of the President and while the press of the country has commented unfavorably on her expressions, her husband has not seen fit to have her stilled."

Now why do the gentlemen from the sunny South wish to have Mrs. Roosevelt stilled? Is it because she is a true American, one who is trying to make democracy work for all Americans here at nome?

There are thousands of black citizens who believe she wants to see justice and fair play for all Americans regardless of race or color. Rather we hope volume should be given her expressions. May she cry aloud both day and night until every fair minded man and woman awakens to the many wrongs heaped upon the American Negro. — Abraham Buchanan, Chicago, Ill.

JUL 23 1943

Democratic (Mrs. Roosevelt)

My Day

HYDE PARK, Friday.—Yesterday morning I left my New York City apartment fairly early and went up to the Colored orphan asylum in Riverdale with some members of the board and interested friends. The school is run by New York City, and it seems to me they are doing a very good job in adapting the regular curriculum to the needs of the children.



These children come, in great part, from broken homes where they have not always had every opportunity for health and proper medical care. There are far more boys than girls. They live in cottages grouped in a circle separated from the administration building which houses the school and infirmary and has an auditorium on the third floor.

New York, N. Y.
World-Telegram

The view of the Hudson River and the Palisades is very beautiful and must have a beneficial effect on these poor, frightened youngsters who find themselves in such beautiful surroundings. The children had worked and earned money to buy a war bond, the third one I believe, and it was presented to one of the masters in my presence.

One little girl gave me a poem which she had written about the President. When I admired a painting done by one of the boys, he promptly gave it to me with characteristic generosity of children. They all sang James Weldon Johnson's beautiful song, which I always love to hear.

* * *

Oct. 25 through Oct. 31 has been designated as Better Parenthood Week. With the support of the United States Children's Bureau, many civic organizations, parent-teacher associations, parent education and welfare groups will work together to canvas the child care needs and decide on the methods of meeting these needs as adequately as possible in this country.

At the present time work for our children is particularly important because of the rise in juvenile delinquency. One of the aims of Better Parenthood Week in 1943 is to: "Lend active support to all efforts in behalf of maternal and child health, improved nutrition, better schools and vocational training, friendlier relations between different origins and beliefs."

First Lady to Address NAACP Fifth Annual Student Meeting

CHESTER COUNTY, Pa. — Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt will address delegates to the NAACP fifth annual Student Conference at Lincoln University, October 29-31.

Recently returned from a tour during which she visited Hawaii, Australia, New Zealand and Guadacanal, Mrs. Roosevelt informed the Student Conference this week that she would be present. Mrs. Roosevelt will deliver the Keynote address on October 29. For its theme the conference will have "A Blueprint for Action." Delegates representing a total of more than 4,000 students, Negro and white, have already registered.

Mrs. Ruby H. Hurley, NAACP director of youth work, stated this week that the conference will be an instructional meeting to post students on techniques for the procurement of a full franchise for the Negro in Amer-

...ica equality in education, and on

Johnson City, Tenn. Chronicle
October 12, 1943

Mrs. FDR Tells Negroes To Go Slow On Demands

CHICAGO, Oct. 12. (AP) — Mrs Franklin D. Roosevelt asserted in an article written for the Octobe issue of "Negro Digest" that:

"If I were a Negro today, think I could have moments o great bitterness. It would be har for me to sustain my faith i democracy and to build up a sens of goodwill toward men of othe races.

"I think, however, that I woul realize that if my ancestors ha never left Africa, we would b worse off as 'natives' today unde the rule of any other country tha I am in this country where m people were brought up as slave

"In a comparatively short per iod of time the slaves have becom free men—free men, that is as fa as a proclamation can make the so. There now remains much wor to be done to see that freedom b comes a fact and not just a pron ise for my people.

"'I know, however, that I a not the only group that has make a similar fight. Even w men of the white race still suff inequalities and injustices, ar many groups of white people my country are the slaves economic conditions."

"I would still feel that I ought to participate to the full extent in this war. When the United Nations win, certain things will be accepted as a result of principles which have been enunciated by the leaders of the United Nations, which never before have been part of the beliefs and practices of the greater part of the world.

"I would not do too much demanding. I would take every chance that came my way to prove my quality and my ability and if recognition was slow, I would continue to prove myself, knowing that in the end good performance has to be acknowledged."

World-Telegram
New York. N. Y.

Negroes Cautioned By Mrs. Roosevelt

By the United Press.

CHICAGO, Oct. 11.—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt in an article entitled If I Were a Negro, appearing in the October issue of Negro Digest, counsels representatives of that race not to do "too much demanding."

Mrs. Roosevelt, who has participated in numerous activities to improve the status of Negroes, wrote that "if I were a Negro I would take every chance that came my way to prove my quality and ability, and if recognition was slow I would continue to prove myself, knowing that in the end good performance would be acknowledged."

If she were a Negro, Mrs. Roosevelt wrote, she would have "mo-

Mrs. FDR Advises Negroes To Prove Quality, Ability

Birmingham Post
Birmingham, Alabama

CHICAGO, Oct. 12.—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, in an article entitled "If I Were a Negro," appearing in the October issue of Negro Digest, published here, counsels representatives of that race not to do "too much demanding."

By United Press.

Mrs. Roosevelt, who has participated in numerous activities to improve the status of Negroes, would take every chance that came my way to prove my quality and ments of great bitterness," and it hard to sustain her "faith in democracy."

She emphasized, however, that she would participate to the full extent in this war. She would accept the end vances about any more quickly than they were offered."

ability and if recognition was slow, I would continue to prove myself, knowing that in the end, good performance would be acknowledged."

If she were a Negro, Mrs. Roosevelt wrote, she would have, "moments of great bitterness," and would find it hard to sustain her "faith in democracy" and men of other races. She emphasized, however, that she would participate to the full in this war. She would accept every advance that was made in the Army and Navy "though I would not try to bring those advances about any more quickly than they were offered."

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

First Lady Advises Negroes Not To Do Much Demanding

CHICAGO, Ill.—Writing in the October issue of the "Negro Digest" published here, Mrs. Eleanor D. Roosevelt said that she would advise Negroes not to do too much demanding.

The First Lady, whose activities in behalf of Negroes have often been criticized by Southern Congressmen, wrote that "if I were a Negro I would take every chance that came my way to prove my quality and ability, and if recognition was slow I would continue to prove myself, knowing that in the end, good performance would be acknowledged."

Admitting that she would have "moments of great bitterness," and would find it hard to sustain her "faith in democracy" and men of other races, Mrs. Roosevelt emphasized, however, that she would participate to the full in the war effort. She would accept every advance in the Army and Navy, she said, "though I would not try to bring advances about any more quickly than they were offered."

Mrs. Roosevelt Opens Radio Series

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

New York—A series of daily radio programs running from mid-August to mid-September was opened by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and continued by Albert Spalding, the eminent violinist, on August 17. The general theme is "unity at home—victory abroad."

Mrs. Roosevelt declared: "I think wherever we live in this great country we must find a way to give to all of our citizens the essential things that spell freedom in a great democracy, because only thus can we justify the sacrifices of our boys throughout the world."

Albert Spalding declared: "the cornerstone of our complex structure is tolerance; the framework is progress; the walls are unity; and the doors and windows are equality before the law, before the nation. Such a building is impregable to enemeis outside. Only we can weaken it or destroy it."

My Day

World-Telegram
New York. N. Y

By Eleanor Roosevelt

WASHINGTON, Thursday.—The other evening I attended the annual meeting of the District of Columbia's Graduate Nurses Assn. It was my first meeting with the head of the student nurses corps, which is at present attracting a great many young people to the nursing service.



There were more than 300 nurses in the procession which entered the hall at the beginning of the evening. Recognition was given to the Nurses Aid Corps, which is now becoming such an important factor in the care of civilians, and even in military hospitals in the United States. I noticed nurses aids at the Walter Reed Hospital the other day, and the doctors praised their work very highly.

* * *

At noon yesterday I went to speak at Miner's Teachers College in Howard University. This is a four-year teachers' training course, and was established by Mr. Miner as a two-year normal school course for teachers. The standards have gradually been raised until now the girls and men attending this college take a four-year course.

This year, of course, there are comparatively few men students, most of them being in the army. The dean of the college greeted me on arrival, and they had an hour's assembly, during which I spoke, and there was some very good singing. Then there was a short reception at which the various heads of activities which are carried on in the college spoke explaining the work of their groups.

* * *

There is nothing more important to the colored people at the present time than the caliber of the teachers who will go out into the rural schools and into the city schools of our country. There is, of course, a greater responsibility on the teachers to enter into the community life. They will help to change the pattern in food habits and in child care.

Even in the city there is a great deal that a teacher can do in her contacts with parents as well as with children. This holds good, I think, whether you teach in a school for white children or for colored children.

If the interests of a few selfish people prevail against the interests of a great many people, we are going to have slum conditions and inadequate housing all over this country. These lead to health conditions that are a menace, not only to the poorer people, but to all the people of the community.

At 1:30 on Friday, I went to a mothers and daughters meeting held by the student council of the Phillips-Wormly School. The children did extremely well in explaining the objectives of the council and in reciting their [illegible]

In the late afternoon I received the members of the home hospitality committee, of which Mrs. Martin Vogel is chairman. They have done very good work in the district for the entertainment of service men, and I was glad of an opportunity to tell them of my admiration.

Yesterday I saw quite a number of people in the course of the day. At 6 o'clock I went to the USO Club to speak at a buffet supper and dance, which was being given by the Filipino women's club in honor of the Filipinos serving in the United States armed forces.

From there I went to a banquet of the George Washington University Women's Athletic Assn., where I spoke on, "The place of recreation in war and peace." This brings me to a note sent by one of the soldiers who occupied our box for the recent concert given here by the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra.

Two of the boys wrote me how much they enjoyed the concert. One of them said he often noticed empty seats when he was fortunate enough to get to one of entertainments. He wondered why people, when they could not use their seats, did not send the tickets to a central place so that service men might obtain them.

In many big cities, all places of entertainment send to distributing centers a quota of tickets for use by service men on furlough. I should think that practice might be organized and carried out in smaller places as well, so that everyone would know where to send their unused tickets.

White Man's World Is Thing of the Past, Says First Lady

Afro-American Baltimore, Md

Says World Co-operation Needed for Peace; Praises Our Soldiers

WASHINGTON

A rosy picture of international co-operation and world awareness by Americans after the war was brought to the student body of Miner Teachers' College Wednesday morning when Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt spoke on an Education Week program.

"I think the first thing we must do is make sure that we understand what it means to co-operate with people in every part of the world," the First Lady urged, as she added, "There was at one time something that was known as the white man's world, but that does not exist any more because we are going to have to work together."

"Madame Chiang Kai-shek does not believe that after the war the Chinese are going to be treated differently in this country from what they are elsewhere," she continued. "If the Chinese were not fighting, our men in the South Pacific would have a much more difficult job than they are having."

What means that each one of us will have to accept greater responsibility as individuals to teach our neighbors what it means to live together," she stated.

"The real reason that Fascism and Nazism were acceptable was not only because the countries in which they grew up had difficult economic problems to face, but because the people in those countries were glad to have someone to take the burden of decision off their shoulders."

"There are some big things to be accepted if we do not intend to make the same mistakes we made before," she added, pointing out that the most important thing was an economic adjustment, and that some soldiers had had more to eat since they had been in the army than ever before.

Praises Colored Troops

She commended the colored troops for their handling of anti-aircraft guns in the South Pacific, and said that the time is going to come when nations will not allow the colore of a person's skin or one's religion to interfere with their opinion of an individual.

Mrs. Roosevelt, who was presented by Dr. Eugene A. Clark, president of the college, was sponsored by the Beta Lambda chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority of the school.

Birmingham Post
Birmingham, Alabama



MY DAY

By ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

WASHINGTON, Sunday, Dec. 5.—I spent an hour Friday morning going over housing conditions in the District of Columbia's section for poorer people, among whom are large numbers of our colored population. I must say I was appalled by some of the things I learned. The population of the district has greatly increased and the colored group has increased along with the whites. In fact, more colored people have come.

The number of houses available to the poorer people has been so curtailed by the condemnation of land in the poorer sections for the erection of public buildings or military roads, that there are actually less housing units and rooms available than there were before the increase in population began.

Real estate interests are making a very definite effort, I am told, to curtail the activities of Government housing. Yet it is impossible for commercial real estate operators to build adequate housing for people of very low incomes. It seems a rather dog-in-the-manger attitude.

52d-1943

MY DAY

By Eleanor Roosevelt.



NEW YORK CITY, Monday, Nov. 29.—At the present time we are all concerned with the questions of juvenile delinquency. It is interesting to have a report of one of the national agencies which can greatly contribute to the solution of this question. Constitution

Boys' Clubs of America, Inc., has been for more than 50 years one of the leading agencies working with boys and now has 250 clubs throughout the United States, which have a membership of over a quarter of a million boy members. Ex-President Hoover is president of the board of directors. Mr. J. Edgar Hoover has recently become a member of the board, and Mr. David Armstrong is executive director.

Recognizing their responsibility since the war, they have inaugurated a new five-point program.

1. To increase their boy membership and to establish new clubs in crowded areas. Atlanta, Georgia

2. To include more activities in the regular program so as to offer a wide variety of interest to boys from 6 to 18.

3. To increase the guidance offered to individual boys.

Points four and five deal with increasing the interest and support of the public, so that the above objectives may be achieved and that there may be more co-operation with all other agencies working along the same lines. They stress particularly the home, the church, the school and the other social agencies. This is a program, of course, which aims to prevent delinquency so that we shall not need to reform young criminals.

They are planning to keep their clubs open during the after-school and evening hours and there are no membership restrictions of age, race, creed or nationaltiy. In industrial areas, club buildings will be opened for young workers coming off the graveyard shift. Activities for older boys, such as dances and teen-age canteens, which will include the girls, are being increased. I wish that these last activities would spread to all of our school buildings as well.

Yesterday's papers noted that a number of young girls from rural areas are drifting into New York City and that nothing is being done to look after them. A program where they could go with other young workers for decent entertainment would be a help.

I believe that, if one could find the right women as hostesses in these clubs and schools, much could be done. Someone in whom young people would confide easily and who has a sympathetic understanding of the problems facing youth today, might save many a youngster from hard and devastating experiences.

MY DAY

World-Telegram New York, N. Y.

By Eleanor Roosevelt.



NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—Yesterday morning we got word of the death of Mr. Marvin McIntyre, who has been friend and associate of the President for many years. He had been ill for some time, but his loyalty and desire to keep on working were so great that he was in the office only a few weeks ago. He enjoyed life and made others enjoy it. Many will miss him.

For my husband it will be the more loyal friend gone. I know that these losses are the things one cannot replace in life, which make the years grow heavier as you grow older. I am glad that "Mac" had the joy of grandchildren before he died, and that Mrs. McIntyre has her family to help her through these difficult days.

I lost another old and very dear friend yesterday. Many people who worked for the League of Women Voters in the early 1920's will remember Miss Elizabeth Read and the help she gave us on the legislative committee in this state. That was my first opportunity to work with her. Ever since that time she and her friend, Miss Esther Lape, have been close and dear friends of mine.

Miss Read was a rare person who was a loyal friend and an honest one. I always felt that she could give expert constructive criticism and that she had a desire to help you to do your best.

Her standards of work and action were high, and I have always been grateful for her friendship. She had been ill for some time, but it is her friends who grieve now that she is gone. Elizabeth herself will meet with courage and high heart whatever is to come.

Though the day had been filled with such sad news, I went to the African Dance Festival at Carnegie Hall last night because many weeks ago I had promised to go. It interested me very much. I had never before thought of drums as a means of communication. It had slipped my memory that they are really the oldest language in the world, until I saw the people actually talking to each other on their drums on the stage last evening.

The opera, which was written to present courtship and a marriage ceremony, was very charming. The chief singer, who had studied at the London Conservatory of Music, had a lovely voice. The girl dancers were graceful and expert. Mr. Dafora has made his country's dances familiar to many in this country. In some parts of the performance I felt as though I was looking at an old Egyptian picture. The color and rhythm of the evening was most impressive.

MY DAY

Constitution Atlanta, Georgia

By Eleanor Roosevelt.



NEW YORK CITY, Friday—Yesterday was a long and busy day. It started out by going to a radio party for the benefit of service men. Everyone who came to the theater, where I answered questions in a broadcast on Bessie Beattie's hour, brought a present, which was to be given to service men in the hospitals here. Flowers were donated in great quantities by the metropolitan florists and taken out to the hospitals by the Gray Ladies of the Red Cross chapters here.

After answering questions on the air, I did a little more Christmas shopping, one of my errands visited a friend who is ill, and finally reached 99 Park avenue about a quarter past five. A party here was in honor of the people who provide amusement in New York city and give tickets for their various entertainments to the service men.

On this occasion, I gave out the five-millionth ticket given free to service men. In addition, many more tickets are sold at half price to officers in the junior grades. I often marvel at the generosity of these people in New York city, who set aside some of their best seats to be given to these boys.

The most exciting part of the whole day was the opportunity a friend of mine provided. He gave me six seats to see Paul Robeson in "Othello." It is a tense and moving play and is most beautifully acted and produced. As a character, Othello has never seemed to me completely convincing, even with Shakespeare's wonderful understanding of human nature.

I have never felt that a man who must have understood men so well, could have been so easily fooled by Iago as Othello is supposed to have been. Perhaps I do not fully comprehend the strength of jealousy, and how it can blind and warp ordinarily sane human beings. I have seen it make people petty, small and cruel, but the complete overthrow of a man's judgment, which it apparently accomplished in the story of Othello, has always been somewhat unconvincing to me.

May I be forgiven for lese majesty in criticizing the greatest master of delineation of human character. Perhaps, however, Shakespeare's greatness is shown by the fact that one still wants to treat his play as though the people were people one might meet today, not people who have been dead hundreds of years.

This morning I went out early to do a recording and various other errands before taking the train back to Washington. E. R.

World-Telegram New York, N. Y.

African Festival For Mrs. Roosevelt

In portrayal of the manner in which tribes of an African settlement would welcome a chief, African dancers and musicians last night staged a festival at Carnegie Hall in honor of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. The production, staged by the African Academy of Arts and Research, required 50 dancers, singers, drummers and musicians, and was directed by Asadata Dafora, who performed a "Victory Bell Dance" created in honor of the President's wife.

Mrs. Roosevelt introduced from the stage ,told an overflow audience that "only when men of all races and color learn to know each other can we hope for a better world and a peaceful one. If we are going to build a foundation on which a lasting peace can be built in the future, we must begin by having a good will for our neighbors all over the world."

WATERS SEES MRS. F D R IN AUSTRALIA

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Tours Carver Club, Asks To Meet Negro Soldiers In New Guinea

By ENOC P. WATERS JR.
(Defender War Correspondent)

SOMEWHERE IN AUSTRALIA.—An eagerness to visit with and inspect the work of Negro troops in the South Pacific was expressed by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt last week just before she plunged into a whirlwind two-day tour of Sydney, the commonwealth's largest city.

Not since her arrival in Australia in New Zealand has she had the opportunity of contacting Negro troops, she said. She added, however, that she was requesting those in charge of her itinerary to include visits with Negro troops in Brisbane and they complied with her request.

"I am a little surprised to find you already here," she told Negro war correspondents that talked with her at the Australia hotel following a general press interview a few hours after her arrival in Sydney.

Asked the reason for her surprise the First Lady replied that she understood Negro papers had encountered difficulty in placing correspondents in this theatre. When she asked if we had encountered any difficulty in securing news, she was told that the representatives of the Negro press had been accorded every courtesy and every assistance by the officials under whom they are working.

Urges Tolerance

With an admonition that a change in our attitudes toward people of all races is necessary for the ideal of peace for which we are fighting and a visit to the Carver Red Cross club, Mrs. Roosevelt wound up her tour of Northern Australia early this week. She was wearing a seersucker Red Cross uniform which she exchanged later for one of heavier material.

She arrived in Brisbane late Monday morning from a tour of the Northern part of the state during which she visited the North American Red Cross club at Townsville where she praised the work of John B. Bond of Raleigh, N. C., director and Misses Grace Outlaw of Chicago and Clara Wells of Houston, Texas.

Perhaps reminded of certain problems peculiar to the States by the presence of Negro war correspondents who had traveled from Washington, D. C. and Miss Rosa Marie Spears of Pasadena, assistant director of the Carver club in Canberra, the capital as one of the greatest friendless soldiers with whom she was given what was described as a visitingoccasional gifts. From there she proceeded to Melbourne and then to Sydney where she encountered Negro troops in many minority groups and that we have ever accorded a visiting dignitary

...ll, Al Hoosman of Seattle, Wash., Alfred Briscoe, of Stockton, Calif., Charles Mobley of Los Angeles, and Pvts. Harry Phillips, Cairo, Ill., and Robert Russell, Macon, Ga. In the game room in the base ent she watched S. Sgt. Clinton Woodard of Detroit, Mich., and Stewards Mate Anthony Biser of New Orleans, La., playing snooker and Stewards Mates Lionas Bartie of Lake Charles, La., and John Flinton, Cleveland, Ohio, playing ping pong.

SEP 18 1943

Hears Singing

Slowly she walked directly to a piano where a singing group of soldiers and sailors was gathered around Miss Madalene Randall of New York city, assistant programis director. Included in the group, to which she apologized for interrupting to say a word, were Stewards Mates C. J. Smith of Pittsburgh, Pa., Benjamin Elder, Columbus, Ga., Paree Porter, New Orleans, La., and Simon Hayward, New York city of the navy; John ...al, New Guinea, of the Australian navy; Sgts. James R. Elder of Louisville, Ky., Willie Miller, Tucson, Ariz., George D. Robinson, Kansas City, Mo., and of the Merchant Marine, Wilfred Sherman of Trinidad, B. W. I.

Because she was behind schedule she had to pass up taking tea with a group of soldiers at a table decorated with daffodils and violets.

In the dining room Cpl. Hoosman, who several months ago knocked out the Australian heavyweight champion held the club register while the First Lady signed it.

Before leaving she greeted other members of the club staff including the following enlisted men: S. Sgt. C. D. Johnson of Tacoma, Wash., Sgt. George Hamilton, Fort Towson, Okla., Cpls. Ellis Henry, Detroit, Mich., Ollie Wooton, St. Louis, Mo., Felton Andrew, 815 East 39th street, Chicago, Ill Isiah Phillips, Houston, Texas, Pfcs. James Wynne, Argo, Ill., Roland Evans, Lawnside, N. J., Cleo Giles, Washington, D. C., Lacy Williams, Oakland, Calif., Pvts. Moody Pearsall, Cape May, N. J., William Wright, Norfolk, Va., and Henry Leach, Greensboro, N. C. Earlier during her tour of a hospital she nodded to Cpls. Ray Monroe of Tacoma, Wash., Guy Armstrong, Washington, D. C., and Pvt. Clarence Ingram, Marianna, Ark.

Mrs. Roosevelt's tour of Sydney did not include the Booker T. Washington club, originally operated by the special service division of the army but recently taken over by the Red Cross, because it is undergoing alterations. The change in management of the club followed the recent visit of Bishop John A. Gregg, who expressed disapproval of its physical accommodations and program.

Pete Tyson of Washington, D.C., who opened the Papuan club in New Guinea will direct activities at the Sydney club when it is reopened.

The only Negro soldiers, Mrs. Roosevelt saw in Sydney were at the army general hospital where she spent more than an hour dining with patients and visiting them in their wards. She spoke to three Negro soldiers, Pvts. Claude Crump of Wichita, Kans., Jams D. Thomas of St. Louis and Sgt. John Monday of San Francisco as she passed them in one of the corridors leading from one ward to another.

Several others ate lunch with her in the huge dining hall of the hospital. They were Pvts. George Tatum of Nashville, Tenn.; Eustace Platenburg of Huntsville, Texas, who is recovering from a bullet wound in the foot; Willie H. Tobin of Galveston, Texas, victim of a truck accident, and Pfc. Richard Simonds of Durham, N. C.

Wins Acclaim

Defender
Chicago, Ill.



MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT
Whose stand for Negroes at the peace conference drew widespread approval in London colonial circles after British newspapers cabled the story from the Defender.

London Papers Carry Story On Defender Debate

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON — The London Daily Mail this week featured a dispatch from its Washington correspondent quoting Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt's statement to the Chicago Defender favoring Negro representation at the peace conference.

The Defender's symposium has been the subject of much comment in official colonial circles following publication of excerpts from some of the articles which were cabled to London.

NOV 6 1943

WASHINGTON — Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt's support for Negro representation at the Peace conference drew wide comment in government circles here this week.

Her comments were published in many newspapers throughout the nation after the United Press picked up the Chicago Defender statement and sent it over its wires.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

FIRST LADY APPEALS FOR TOLERANCE IN CITY

Opens Broadcast Series on 'Unity at Home—Victory Abroad'

AUG 16 1943

Speaking at her home in Hyde Park, opening a series of broadcasts by New York radio stations on "Unity at Home — Victory Abroad," Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt appealed yesterday for mutual understanding and tolerance among the varied racial and religious groups that make up the city's population.

"We fight a war today that is sending our men to the far corners of the world and the principal things for which we fight are involved in these questions at home," Mrs. Roosevelt said. "If the Axis powers were to win there would be no freedom anywhere in the world. We think it worth sacrificing our lives and the lives of those we love to prevent slavery and to preserve the hope of world democracy upon the earth. How illogical we will be if we do not watch our own attitude and wipe out of our own hearts whatever causes the lack of unity among our own citizens."

Mrs. Roosevelt was introduced by Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia, who spoke at his home, Gracie Mansion, for broadcasting over WEAF and the municipal radio station, WNYC, both of which carried Mrs. Roosevelt's talk. The Mayor characterized her as a tireless crusader, who has braved criticism, misrepresentation and even ridicule to champion the causes of minorities and fight the battle of the friendless everywehre against racial and religious intolerance.

The broadcasts will continue through Sept. 17. All radio stations in the city will take part and some of the broadcasts will be in foreign languages.

Democracy Never a Reality

Washington Tribune
NOV 13 1943

Until All Are Given Equal

Washington, D. C.

Opportunity, Says First Lady

NOV 1943

CHESTER COUNTY, Pa. — The 172 degelates to the NAACP Fifth Annual Student Conference at Lincoln University, October 29-31, heard Mrs. Roosevelt warn that the period after peace "will be a difficult one for many people all over the world."

Mrs. Roosevelt told the students who came from 35 colleges from as far south as Florida and as far west as Michigan that the democracy for which America is fighting can never become a reality until all citizens regardless of color or race are assured equal opportunity for job training and employment.

"If the foundation for a real lasting peace is to be laid" said the First Lady addressing the opening meeting of three-day ... ley on October 29, "this nation must consider now how it can cooperate with other nations in the transition period after the war."

Walter White voiced denunciation of Comptroller General Lindsay C. Warren's ruling that it was not compulsory that the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company obey the executive order banning job discrimination. White labeled Warren's action "sabotage against the President."

Others who spoke at the opening meeting were Walter L. Wright, president of Lincoln University, Mrs. Ruby Hurley, NAACP Youth Secretary, Cornelius Jenkins, president of the Lincoln chapter of the NAACP and Frank Wilson, Dean of Men at Lincoln.

The delegates elected the following officers: chairman, Gloria Morgan, Wayne University, Detroit, Mich.; first vice chairman, Joe Maxwell, Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, N. C.; second vice chairman, Joe Howard. Howard University, Washington, D. C.; secretary, Mattebelle Wesley, Virginia Union University, Richmond, Va.; assistant secretary, Marion Harris, Hampton Institute.

Urges Negroes To Fight For Equality

Daily World
SEP 26 1943

Atlanta, Georgia

CHICAGO — Sept., (ANP) — That Negroes should continue their fight for complete equality and full rights under our democratic government is urged by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt in an exclusively written article appearing in the October issue of Negro Digest, published in Chicago at 3507 South Parkway.

Writing on the subject, "If I Were a Negro," the First Lady in direct, ... style, gives her ideas on what she would do about discrimination, social inequality and army jim crow. "If I Were A Negro," says the First Lady, "I think I would have moments of great bitterness. It would be hard for me to sustain my faith in democracy and to build up a sense of goodwill toward men of the other races.

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"I think, however, that I would realize that if my ancestors had never left Africa, we would be worse off as natives today under the rule of any other country than I am in the country where my people were brought as slaves."

SEP 26 1943

Continuing, Mrs. Roosevelt says: "In a comparatively short period of time the slaves have become free men — free men, that is, as far as a proclamation can make them see. There now remains much work to be done to see that freedom becomes a fact and not just a promise for my people.

"If I Were A Negro, I would still feel that I ought to participate to the fullest, in this war. When the united nations win, certain things will be accepted as a result of the principles which have been enunciated by the leaders of the united nations, which never has been a part of the beliefs and practices of the greater part of the world."

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Mitchell's Warning Stirs D.C. Comment

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—The warning given the Democratic party to "rouse itself on the Negro question or be doomed to defeat in 1944," given by ex-Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell in a Defender interview last week, has stirred considerable comment in Washington.

There is an inclination on the part of leaders to agree, at least in part, with Mitchell's statements.

Willard Townsend, president of the CIO United Transport and Service Workers Union, in the city for the FEPC railroad discrimination hearings, declared:

"I agree in part with the statement of the congressman. However, it is my opinion that a shift from the Democratic party to the Republican party certainly will not help the Negro cause at all if we are to use the Mackinac Island Republican conference as a yardstick.

"I believe that in order for the Negro to exercise his political suffrage to the fullest extent, he should take his cue from organized labor. And it is time to do something about the political picture.

Criticizes Past

"However," said Townsend, "even though Mr. Mitchell is attempting to impose his theories on the Negro electorate, it is my considered judgment that any program which he attempts to effectuate, based on his record as U. S. congressman, will not in any way be considered seriously by the Negro voter.

"The Negro knows that now that Mr. Mitchell has been able to provide himself with a very comfortable farm and all the necessary crudiments, he might well sit down and say what the Negro should do; but when he had an opportunity to do it, he failed to do it."

Another CIO represenative, George Weaver, director of the CIO Committee to Abolish Discrimination, declared: "The statement should be qualified. Instead of going into the Republican party as such, there should be a more careful scrutiny of the records of political candidates."

Weaver declared that if a man like Willkie is nominated by the Republicans, it will make a great deal of difference. As to congressmen, he said: "I hope Negroes are not politically naive enough to fall from one political party to the other without analysing the men's political records."

No Comment By Hastie

Judge William Hastie, who has returned to his post as dean of the Howard University Law school, and who won the Spingarn Medal this year for resigning as civilian aide to the Secretary of War, preferred not to make a statement at this time. He intends to declare his own views on the subject in the near future.

From a high ranking government official, who prefers not to be quoted came the statement that he considered Mitchell's declaration one of the most sage statements the ex-Congressman has made. "But it is one I am afraid is not fully apreciated," he said.

"People are not concerned so much with what's been done in the past," he stated, "but they are tremendously interested in what is being done in the present and what they may look forward to in the future."

Sees Little in GOP

He felt, however, that there is little to gain from the reactionary Republican organization. Nevertheless, he pointed out, people—particualrly minorities—have their immediate problems in their minds more than their past problems. "As a result," he said, "they are not as inclined to express appreciation for past acts as to express resentment against present disappointments and future hopelessness."

The "ins," he declared, have the disadvantage of being subject to be voted against, and the "outs" have the advantage of being subject to be voted for.

This was closely in accord with the views of Mitchell, who said: "No more could be asked of any man than the President has delivered, and certainly Mrs. Roosevelt has 'stuck her neck out' in pursuing the democratic course she believes in. The First Family has done its job, and well. It is the attitude of the 'other element' in the party (the Democratic party)

GENERAL

that has provoked the state of dormancy into which it has drifted."

THE HORIZON

Roosevelt, by Wooing the South, May Lose Rest of the Country and Victory in 1944

BY P. L. PRATTIS

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

THOSE of us who truly love liberty and hope for a better day for all mankind, can devoutly pray that our present leadership, that is, the political leadership represented by the administration in Washington, doesn't outsmart itself. There are signs that the administration is trying to be very smart politically, both at home and abroad. There are also signs that the road it is traveling is not at all sure to lead to victory, either for itself or for the people.



Mr. Prattis

From what we are allowed to see, the administration is trying a shrewd, inside game. It is not letting its real objectives be known. It is trying to sneak up on and around the opposition. It is trying to win a victory without a fight.

It was impossible not to contrast the forthright frankness of Winston Churchill's speech in Canada with the impatience, secrecy and temper shown by President Roosevelt, Secretary of State Cordell Hull and others on this side of the Atlantic in respect to certain aspects of foreign and domestic policy. Churchill bluntly and exhaustively answered questions in the public mind in respect to Russia which would have won the dunce's corner for an American reporter if he had had the temerity to ask them at the White House or the State department. What is our honest policy toward Russia? Upon what real political basis are we operating in North Africa? From what principles does our government of conquered territory derive? What is our true policy toward Spain? Nobody has given the American people clear cut answers to these questions. Our State department is a veiled mystery to the American people. No wonder its operations have become suspect.

BEING LED BY NOSE

ONE is forced to wonder what bearing the political events of 1944 are having on the political operations of 1943. Evidence accumulates to show that the influence of the South, weighed in the balance of 1944, is becoming more and more decisive so far as our domestic and foreign policy is concerned. The South, representing less than one-fourth of the nation's population, is leading the rest of the country by the nose. Is this because the present administration expects to win, or lose, in 1944 through the political support or defection of the South? Should a political minority be allowed to dictate policies for the majority simply to keep the minority in line?

Of course, Negro leaders have for years inveighed against the dominant influence of the South as an ideological group, in national affairs. The Army is dominated by the South. Far more officers in our Army come from the South than the American public generally suspects. One Texas school has more officers in the Army than West Point. The Navy is dominated by the South. Congress is dominated by Southerners from rotten boroughs. Every department or bureau in Washington is aware of and the victim of this baleful influence. The Federal Communications commission is fighting for its life today against a Southern congressman caught red-handed in violation of the law. Martin Dies wields the lash over government employes.

SOUTHERN VICTORIES

NOT much attention was paid to Negro protests when the administration laid the poll tax aside as an issue too hot politically. The Army, the Navy and the White House have all yielded to pressure from the South on the Negro problem. So long as this surrender to a minority applied only to Negroes, the rest of the population failed to become alarmed. But now it is seen that evil has no limits. When Wallace was rebuked and fired from the Board of Economic Warfare to save the face of Jesse Jones of Texas, the South won a victory. The South put a squeeze play on the White House to force Sumner Welles out of the White House. That move was dictated in the interest of Cordell Hull of Tennessee. The assistant president of the United States is James Byrnes, best remembered by Negroes as the congressman from South Carolina, who consistently fought appropriations for Howard university. In every direction an American, a white or black American, from the East, North, Middle West or Far West looks, he finds a Southerner in a position of authority.

WHAT IS OBJECT?

Isn't it natural to ask if the administration is selling the rest of the country to the South to try to insure political victory in 1944? But will 100 million citizens stand hog-tied and allow themselves to be whipped into line by 30 million? When the 100 million wake up and find out that the administration is selling them off are they going to sit quietly and take it? It is certain that the South cannot reelect Mr. Roosevelt by itself. Some help is going to be required from the 100 million. Are they going to help Mr. Roosevelt when they become aware of the humiliation they are suffering? This writer feels that Mr. Roosevelt, by following the present "shrewd" policies designed by his advisers is running the risk of losing so much strength within his party outside the South that he cannot look forward to 1944 with optimism.

Mr. Roosevelt and his advisers should remember that the support of the "solid South" is not always an augury of victory. He should also remember that he has not won with the "solid South" alone.

If the administration doesn't wake up to the necessity soon of taking forthright positions in respect to domestic and foreign policies, regardless of the South, the chances are that it is going to defeat itself. The President should realize that he must fight, fight out in the open. He should accept the challenge and join arms on the basis of what he believes in his heart and mind is right.

From the Readers

PM
New York, N. Y.

The Browder Question

Dear Editor:

Paul Robeson is one of America's most distinguished artists and citizens. But his letter to the President on the case of Mrs. Earl Browder contains a statement which should not go unchallenged. Mr. Robeson says: "In these days of close cooperation with the Soviet Union, many Americans had come to feel that the Government no longer would resort to prosecuting individuals who refused to malign our gallant ally and the Communist Party in this country."

Undoubtedly there is good cause to protest the deportation of Mrs. Browder on humanitarian grounds, but Mr. Robeson implies in the above statement that the Communist Party of the United States and the Soviet Union are synonymous. We were told several years ago that the American Communist Party had severed all relations with the Communist International. Only last Spring the dissolution of the Comintern was officially announced in Moscow. Mr. Robeson seems to overlook these events.

This is a serious matter. If, as Mr. Robeson suggests, American cooperation with the Soviet Union requires agreement with the purposes and the methods of the Communists in this country, the chances for a lasting peace are slim indeed.

Surely Mr. Robeson will want to know that there is a large body of ...ern has ...
correct the clear and dangerous Americans who admire the Rus-solved. ...
implication of his letter to the ...sian people, our ally, but who do I agree with ...
President. ...not for that reason bend the knee ...the deportatio...

New York ...

JAMES LOEB, Jr. to the American Communists. He ...on purely ...
must also know that the American But I defy ...

Hearst and Patterson hate both party long ago severed connections Browder, to ...
Russia and the American Commun-with the Communist International. ...cism of the ...
ist Party. But Mr. Robeson must And that, in any case, the Comin- ...be construed ...

New York

1944 POLITICAL YARDSTICK FOR MEASUREMENT OF POLITICAL PARTIES BY NEGRO VOTERS FORMULATED

Age
New York, N. Y.—

A yardstick for the measurement of political parties and candidates by Negro voters in 1944 was formulated and signed here, November 20 by 24 representatives of 20 national organizations.

The yardstick was incorporated in "A Declaration by Negro Voters" which asserted: The Negro voter will support a political party which by words and deeds shows its determination to work for full citizenship status for thirteen million Negro Americans and to better the lot of all disadvantaged people in this country. The Negro knows that his voting strength in 17 or more states with 281 or more votes in the electoral college gives him the potential balance of power in any reasonably close national election and in many state and local elections. His vote no longer belongs to any one political party."

The first item on the yardsick recognizes the war "as the chief issue confronting our country" and the demand is made that "victory must crush Hitlerism at home as well as abroad." The conferees urged consideration of all issues "affecting the entire country" as well as those specifically affecting Negroes, and declared that price control, extension of social security, post war employment, post war housing, and friendship for labor would be important items in judging candidates and parties.

Insist On Vote

"We insist upon the right to vote in every state, unrestricted by poll taxes, white democratic primaries, the gerrymandering of districts, or any other device designed to disfranchise the Negro and other voters," the statement declared.

A demand for forthright action against the evils of lynching and mob violence was incorporated in the statement together with a request that the cloture rule be adopted in the Senate to permit action on the anti-poll tax bill. The statement also called for the continuation and expansion of the work of the FEPC after the war.

Also demanded was an end to imperialism and colonial exploitation.

The statement condemned segregation of, and discrimination against, Negroes in the armed [illegible] and declared, "the policy of the present administration with reference to the Negro in the armed forces is bad in principle and has failed. Any party which hopes to win the support of Negroes must adopt a new and democratic program for their integration into the armed forces, including the following provisions:

(a) Full integration of the Negro into the armed forces without segregation.

(b) The abolition of quotas by race of the medical corps, nurse corps, technical and all other branches of service throughout the armed forces.

(c) A vigorous and purposeful program of education in decent and democratic race relations to be carried out throughout the Army and Navy

(d) A radically revised Navy program which will include the acceptance of Negroes as commissioned officers, the use of Negroes in general and technical service on sea-going vessels, the elimination of restrictions preventing capable messmen from transfer and promotion out of that service and the acceptance of Negro women in the WAVES, SPARS, and nurse corps without segregation.

(e) The abolition of segregation in recreational and other facilities at army posts and naval shore installations as well as the abolition of segregation of blood plasma for the armed services.

(f) The progressive removal of Negro troops from those areas where they are treated with violence, abuse and disrespect in the civilian community in view of the demonstrated inability of the federal authorities, military and civil, to cope with such behaviour.

(g) Negroes now largely denied the right to serve in combat forces must be given the same opportunity as others to serve in this field as well as all other branches of the service.

Voters Distrustful

The statement closed by saying: "Negro voters are distrustful of most candidates who come from those states which deny Negroes opportunity to vote and confine them to rigid patterns of segregation and inferior status. No candidate from any section of the country will be acceptable to Negro voters unless he has clearly demonstrated opposition to and departure from the prevailing anti-Negro traditions."

The statement continues: "We hereby serve notice that if either major political party shall nominate for President or Vice-President a candidate of vacillating or reactionary character or with an anti-Negro record, it will be vigorously opposed by the Negro vote.

"We repudiate all venal politicians, Negro and white, who attempt, for personal profit, to 'deliver the Negro vote.' We hereby serve notice that the Negro has come of age politically.

"This statement is designated both to make clear the Negro's present attitude of resentment against the shortcomings of both major political parties and to serve as a guide in measuring the future intentions of parties and candidates. The first test of the honesty of these intentions will be the vote upon the pending poll tax bill and cloture, if necessary, and we serve notice on all Senators and their party associates that we will vigorously oppose all Senators who refuse to vote upon enlightened labor, church, farm and other groups to oppose actively the current wave of reaction. We will combine on a minimum program with such enlightened groups. Together these groups constitute a majority of the electorate. Together we will beat back the tide of reaction and build a more decent world now and in the post-war years which can insure a durable peace.

"The Negro voter has not yet chosen sides for 1944.

Vote Cannot Be Bought

"His vote cannot be purchased by distribution of money to and through party hacks. It cannot be won by pointing to jobs given to a few individual Negroes, although the recognition of the Negro as an integral part of the body politic through the selection of qualified Negroes for appointive or elective offices is included among the Negro's demands. The Negro vote no longer can be won by meaningless generalities in party platforms which are promptly forgotten on for cloture on this bill.

52d-1943
Star of Zion
Charlotte, N. C

Will the Negro Cause A New Party?

JAN 14 1943

Oswald Garrison Villard, great friend of the Negro and an American humanitarian of the first rank, writes in a recent edition of Christian Century on the definite trends toward "A New Party Now?", which, he reasons ,grows for the most part out of Southern resentment toward the New Deal for the latter's liberal attitude toward the Negro. He recites the fact that the Southern Society of New York recently invited Frank M. Dixon, retiring governor of Alabama, and "a fellow traveler with (defeated) Governor Talmadge of Georgia" to deliver the address to a dinner given by the Society. On this occasion Dixon took advantage of the opportunity to vent his spleen upon the New Deal administration by saying that retention of democracy "requires the exercise of its function. As an athlete becomes soft and flabby where his muscles are disused, so does the spirit of democracy where it is not used."

Mr. Villard retaliates by saying: "This is exceedingly funny coming from a representative of the party which ever since the Civil War has suppressed all democracy in the south and made republican government a mockery and sham." Admitting, however, that this is "the feeling of the conservative class in the south . . . and the thing which galls the southerner, 'it is his own party that is dynamiting their social structure,'" Mr. Villard very pertinently points out that Dixon declared "the policy of the government against racial discrimination and the work of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, which enforces equality of labor, are a challenge to 'the basic principle of segregation, without which there can be no orderly society below the Mason and Dixon line'."

JAN 14 1943

Because of this resentment of the South toward the traditional Democratic Party, it is believed by some that the South may attempt to form a new party, which will be a proper vehicle for the carrying forward of the "principles of segregation," which will pave the way for the development of the same doctrine of racial superiority that has made the Germans "infamous."

JAN 14 194

While we are of the opinion that it would be unfortunate for the Negro to become the "bone of contention" in a national controversy, it might not be a bad thing to have a show down on what the status of the Negro is to be.

GENERAL

Clinton, S. C. Chronicle
January 7, 1943

Spectator Comments
On Men and Things

What is the law? When a lawyer is consulted he knows enough law to know that horse-back opinions on the law are not safe; the surest way is to look up the law. But suppose it is all son confused that one can't tell? Well, in that case the opposing counsel will make learned arguments to the court.

I've read in the papers that the highway department must pay a fee to the lawyers retained by one of our governors to defind an act of the legislature when it was challenged in court. There are several points which a citizen might like to have clarified, so I venture to state them: The legislature, under the urging of Governor Maybank, anthorized the use of a part of the highway revenue for general state purposes. A citizen of the state challenged this in the supreme court as unconstitutional. The attorney general of the state, as the state's law officer, should have represented the state. In fact, nobody else has authority to set aside the attorney general. But the governor employed private counsel, and those lawyers presented a bill for $4,000, as I recall. The first point for clarification is this: What authority has any governor to employ private counsel for the state?

The issue here finally was passed on by the legislature, which authorized the highway department to act. But here we find a Constitutional inhibition, as I see it. The Constitution says: "The general assembly shall not, etc. . . . nor authorize payment or part payment of any claim under any contract not authorized by law."

No law authorized the governor to employ counsel. The employment was, therefore, invalid, as I see it. If, as it seems to me, the governor was not empowered to employ counsel in the first place, then neither the highway department nor the general assembly may lawfully pay for the services. That, it appears, is a clear reading of the Constitution.

Our Constitution has been kicked about so much that this question is worth study. If the governor, any governor, may, of his own initiative set aside the attorney general and appoint private counsel, he may likewise appoint men to do the work of the comptroller general, state treasurer, or any other official, even Constitutional officials, for such the attorney general is.

The Constitution prescribes the general scope of the governor's prerogative. His principal function is "to see that the laws be faithfully executed in mercy." He may veto an act but he has no authority to substitute private lawyers for the attorney general.

Why do we submit to the Northern Democrats?

Newspapers of December 4th carried an Associated Press story from New Orleans which quotes Governor Jones of Louisiana as recommending that Southern Democrats break with Northern Democrats. Gov. Jones' outburst was due to his resentment over the preference given Northern states in war contracts. Said the governor: "I can't see why we should continue to give adherence to a party which has treated us worse than the Republican party has ever treated us on these issues (allocation of war contracts). I can't see why we should adhere to the Democratic party if we are going to be stepchildren. I don't see why we shouldn't form our own Democratic party and join with the people of the Middle West.

"They (Northern Democrats) call us the nation's economic problem No. 1, but they seem more interested in solving the economic problems of some foreign nations than those here.

"I am convinced the only way to get results is to fight like hell and I propose that we do just that," he said.

A distinguished South Carolinian urged a break months ago, but for much higher reasons than war contracts. C. Norwood Hastie of Charleston, published a letter in a dozen great Southern dailies in which he pointed out that the New Deal rests on Northern Democrats and other elements which have broken faith with the Democrats of the South. Mr. Hastie urged that the South retail its own Democracy, that of our fathers, and that the South save its civilization by throwing its weight to whichever group might offer most to the South. Mr. Hastie was not counting spoils or the mess of pottage; he was concerned about principles of government and fundamental considerations. Under his plan the South would not merely be "in the bag," but would have to be reckoned with.

Why should we seek to maintain the "solid South"? When Alfred E. Smith was a candidate for the presidency, the "solid South" split into splinters. Virginia, Texas, Georgia, Florida, North Carolina—and others—left the Democratic fold. Well, it could be done again.

We are Democrats. We are, in fact, the Democrats who have kept the party alive. Now we don't count. Strangers we are in our father's house. The party of our fathers seeks to entrench itself in power by using our votes, while slapping us and our mode of living and holding us to scorn. Let us look at the truth. Why were you a Democrat ten years ago? Well, why are you a Democrat today? When Hoover and Coolidge were president we thought we knew why we were Democrats. Well, why are we Democrats under the New Deal? Is the New Deal Democratic? Wake up, Democrats! Let us cherish the Democracy of Wade Hampton and his Red Shirts; the Democracy of Ben Tillman; the Democracy of Woodrow Wilson; but what of this so-called arrangement today which coddles labor leaders and Negro politicians?

Are you ready for the Eleanor clubs and all the other innovations? If you are—well, then you are happy; but if you a real Southerner, "look unto the rock whence ye are hewn"!

Let no man be lulled into a sense of security or well-being because we hear of no manifestations. The truth is that Northern Negroes are making every effort to organize Southern Negroes; and Northern Negro organizations are sending their leaders to tell the President what they want. Let them; but the power of the Northern Democrats is built on Southern Democratic support. If we have sense enough to act as our interest—and the national interest — dictates we shall withdraw that support and let them and their associate mischief-makers crash to the ground.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.



MAR 8 - 1943

"Competition is the life of trade . . ."

And how unnecessary! Granted that what is needed to have the South's race situation respected is a competition for Southern votes equal to the competition for Negro votes up North, all that is needed is that people in the South who feel Republican be free to vote that way without stigma or restraint.

MAR 8 - 1943

Saturday Evening Post, entitled "Will Dixie Bolt the New Deal?"

And being competed for is the secret of getting your case considered. Out-going Gov. Sam Jones, of Louisiana, and Ex-Gov. Frank Dixon, of Alabama, are eternally right in their contention that the South will never have sympathetic treatment in national politics until its vote becomes something uncertain and isn't just a deadweight for one party every four years. But they do wrong, it seems to this column, when they propose a separate Southern party as the solution. Gov. Jones has a piece about this in the current

Dealings are not going to sign up with the ones who have no appreciation of real benefits the New Deal accomplished for this region. The one issue around which a Southern party of any importance could be organized is the Negro. And what a hateful, unnecessary sort of party that would be, accentuating the race issue, lining the whole Negro population up against it, free to participate in no other national and regional questions because of holding together on this one alone.

Some object that if Republican and Democratic Parties come into real competition here both will tend to use Negro votes with which to win, competing for the whole Negro vote. Well, why not? Is it not the ones who have no part in the present set-up who are most entitled to the benefits of a two-party system? And what a hateful, feel Republican be free to vote sort of party that would be that is not going to sign straint.

A separate Southern party, to amount to much, could not be a party of confirmed anti-New Dealers. There are not enough of them, and the voters who now are turning against more New

ing for the Negro vote regionally just as it is competed for nationally now. If the temptation to do this were as strong as these objectors think it would apply to the bitter competition which already goes on between factions of the Democratic Party in the South at primary times.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
February 2, 1943

The Negroes Are Innocent

Had the Reconstruction government of South Carolina 1867-1877 been exclusively a "white man's government", had all the governors, congressmen, legislators and other office-holders been white scalawags and carpetbaggers, how would the people have looked upon it? (They would have hated and denounced it, in 1876.)

The question is pertinent now because the ugly evidences are present of wastefulness, extravagance, venality, corruption, lewdness, that characterized the administrations of governors and legislatures when negroes were sharing in them.

Perhaps the evidences of filth are not so plain and insulting now as they were in "Reconstruction", perhaps the criminality is not so common—not yet—but we have a white man's government that is the product of white primaries denounced sometimes as corrupt by persons elected to the highest offices by primary. Nor does one observe a finger lifted by governors, or by authorities of the white man's Democratic party (there is a state Democratic committee) to clean this primary election system of its rottenness—rottenness, mark, to which those in high position and not The News and Courier are bearing witness.

The question is pertinent—is a fair question:

Are venality and rascality, strongly reminiscent of the carpetbag, scalawag and negro government in South Carolina now to be looked upon with indifference and equanimity by the South Carolinians because the negroes have no part in it, because the negroes cannot be accused of responsibility for the venality and rascality, because we have a "white man's Democratic government?"

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

REPUBLICANS NEED BE CAREFUL

The Bystander has looked with a great deal of suspicion at the coalition between Northern Republicans and Southern Democrats in their program of beating measures advanced by the New Deal.

MAR 25 1943

Many things this administration has done are commendable. The people wanted them; we have endorsed them. Then of course there are those things with which we do not agree, want them stopped and will lend aid to help do the job.

Naturally, some of the decent things done for Negroes are bound up in other things the New Dealer fosters so in order to kill bad feature some good ones are killed also.

One of the most striking feature of this teaming up was the fight made by the Dies Committee in the House of Representatives on Dr. William Pickens. The record shows that Republicans from Illinois voted solidly against him; that of the sixty-six Northern votes cast against him, fifty were Republicans. *Happily, the entire Iowa delegation voted for Dr. Pickens.*

The Republicans have accused the Negro in large cities with going a long way toward keeping the New Deal in power. If that be true, some are making no effort to change this situation, but their actions show just the opposite.

It is rather amusing to watch these foxy Southern Democrats who hope to use Republicans to help kill off Roosevelt, but also in the end will be Democrats just the same.

Republicans had better watch their step.

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

Randolph Says Negroes Should Develop Powerful Non-Partisan Political Block

MAR 10 1943

Chicago, Illinois, February 19. — Before the Oklahoma Negro Teachers Association's Convention in Oklahoma City, A. Philip Randolph, National Director of the March On Washington Movement and International President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, proposed that the Negro people develop a powerful Non-Partisan Political Block, representing Negroes of all political faiths, embracing the major national Negro organizations, civic, religious, trade union, business, educational, fraternal, women's and youth groups in the country, which can talk turkey to the anti-Negro elements in the Congress.

Such a political weapon is indispensable to advance and defend the interests of the Negro in America in these days of power-politics. This Non-Partisan Block should not commit itself to any political party nor accept money from any political party, but depend entirely upon the funds received from Negro organizations and individuals.

MAR 10 1943

But a Non-Partisan Political Block of Negroes should contribute funds to any candidate's campaign and also send speakers and literature into certain places to fight to defeat anti-Negro candidates and legislation, and to support pro-Negro candidates and legislation.

Upwards of twenty millions of Negroes in America should have and can build a powerful Non-Partisan Political Block comparable to the non-partisan political block of labor, reecntly formed by the A. F. of L., C. I. O. and Big Four and the Farmers' nUion, and the Southern block, the Farmer's block and the block of the National Manufacturers' Association concluded Mr. Randolph.

Star of Zion
Charlotte, N. C.

A Southern Party

MAR 25 1943

John Temple Graves, prominent Southern columnist, discourses recently upon the probabilities of "A Southern Party," which has threatened to develop, because of Dixie revolt against the New Deal. Mr. Graves, who, with Virginius Dabney, has been greatly disturbed by the rising agitation of the Negro for a larger share in American democracy, is frank to admit thatt here can be no necessity for a new Southern party with the New Deal as an issue. It is his opinion that there is not enough opposition to the Roosevelt ian brand of Democracy to give life to a new party.

It is Mr. Graves' belief that there can be no new party except on the issue of the Negro. And while he evidently senses the need for a bi-partisan South, he also recognizes the difficulty of developing a strong Republican party in the South, which, with the Democrats, would vie with each other for the Negro vote, as is now done in the Democratic party, which is the election of the South.

Mr. Graves voices the age-old philosophy of the South that this region's "race situation should be respected," and we hasten to add that the South's race situation will be respected more fully by the nation if and when the South faces up to the race situation intelligently and progressively, as many Southerners are already willing to do.

MAR 25 1943

All Southerners, white and Negro, should be frank and sensible enough to admit that the old South is dead, thank God. Intelligent, law-abiding Negroes who have lived in the South for generations, love the South quite as much as white Southerners. But they have endeavored to prepare themselves for citiznship—American citizenship, which means educational, economic and political equality. If the Negro remains in the South he will continue to fight for that equality; if he leaves the South, as many have already done, the whole South is poorer and its problems increased. The Negro masses know that something is wrong and must be righted. This is the problem of Southern government.

MAR 25 1943

We will get no where by resenting outside influences, either white or Negro, and we cannot ameliorate the situation by attempting to enforce Southern social patterns on other sections of the country, or by domination of the nation's governmental agencies and policies.

4th-Term Propaganda Laid to Negroes In O.W.I.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

DEC 4 1943

Washington, Nov. 30 (AP)—Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee said today they had been asked to abolish the Negro Bureau of the Office of War Information by a witness who asserted the bureau was engaging in Fourth-Term political activities among Negroes.

Edgar J. Brown, who identified himself as a director of the National Negro Council, made the recommendation at an executive session of the committee yesterday.

He took to the committee room tear sheets from a Philadelphia Negro newspaper and from Life magazine showing a picture distributed by O.W.I. of President and Mrs. Roosevelt with Elie Lescot, president of Haiti, at the White House during Lescot's recent visit to Washington.

No Action Taken.

DEC 4 1943

Senator Nye (R., N. D.), an appropriations committee member, said Brown cited the photograph as "an example of Fourth Term Propaganda distributed by the bureau." Nye explained the committee took no action on the complaint and could take none since the O.W.I.'s request for a supplemental $5,000,000 appropriation, now before the committee, concerned overseas activities exclusively.

Theodore Poston, chief of the Negro news desk at O.W.I. headquarters, said the picture referred to by Brown was of a routine nature, of the type taken "when the head of any State visits the White House," and that it was distributed "only upon request." Poston added that twenty-three Negro newspapers, out of a total of 248 in the nation, and one magazine requested it.

DEC 4 1943

Poston said the Negro bureau was maintained as part of the O.W.I.'s domestic branch without a specific appropriation for the purpose of furnishing information about Negro war activities to Negro newspapers and others.

52d-1943

General

IF THIS BE REASON...by RICHARD O. BOYER

New Masses
New York, N. Y.

52d

I BELIEVE...

I BELIEVE that an examination of American history and a weighing of the present situation indicates that there is a vital element missing from American life whose absence may lose the war. In the two great American crises of the past, progressive patriots had an *organized* voice and it is not too much to say that without this organized coalescence of many voices into a single, fighting entity both the Revolution and the Civil War might have been lost.

APR 6 1943

Where is that voice today? It is not in the Republican Party, although an important segment of it backs policies that will win the war. It is not in the Democratic Party whose southern wing is the citadel of those racial policies that will do more to lose the war than to win it. There are important pro-war forces in both, but the point is that neither presents a unified program which answers the needs both of victory and all the people. That voice is not in labor because it is still regrettably divided and because it has not attracted to it its natural ally, the working farmer. The Communist Party, although increasing in numbers and prestige, is still too small to organize and centralize the many win-the-war voices into a single one. Where, then, is the voice that speaks alike for the farmer and for labor, for the small businessman and the people of the professions, the voice that is capable of rallying all of these and has formulated a fighting, unifying program whose every plank has been judged by only one criterion—will it help win the war? And can we win the war without such an organized voice?

The fact is that the win-the-war forces are without a unified organization and therefore without a unified voice or unified policies. Instead there are a hundred organizations and a hundred voices and the result is weak, confused, contradictory, and almost without effect. A feeling of uneasiness, of demoralization results, in which millions wish to back the President and the decision at Casablanca to invade Europe but scarce know how to go about it. They instinctively feel that a resolution passed by a trade union or a neighborhood group, that a letter to the President, is not enough—that the problem is a complex and multiple one which can only be met by a people's organization specifically designed to win the war. Millions know that you can't fight fascism by aiding fascism, millions are against the appeasement of Franco, are uneasy and distrustful of various schemes of collaboration with fascists, worried by those who glibly speak of a third world war, this one directed against the USSR. Millions dimly feel an identity of interest, the farmer with the trade unionist, the storekeeper with his customer, the middle class with labor, and millions feel that their common, vital interest is winning the war—and that how it is won and the way it is won will decide their fate. But they stand passive, and are even prone to demoralization, because there is no instrument directing them, or with which they can arm themselves in their earnest desire to stand behind the President in fighting the war to a victorious conclusion.

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IF AMERICAN history teaches any lesson it is that no political struggle can be won without organization. And if it teaches any other lesson it is that war is political, that war is the waging of politics by violent means. If it reveals anything it is that unorganized, assorted good wills are not enough. Millions with their hearts in the right place will be of no avail until they are organized to act. The organized, unified force fighting for American freedom in pre-Revolutionary days was the Sons of Liberty, and it was truly a people's national organization. From it came the Committee of Correspondence, whose primary function was the organization of unity and coordination between the thirteen states fighting for independence. Both of these organizations gave way to the Continental Congress which throughout the Revolution provided a forum, a center, and a rallying point for progressive patriots to formulate and organize victory. Where is that forum, that rallying point today? Is it the present Congress? Each member of the Continental Congress had pledged "his life, his fortune, and his sacred honor" to victory and each would have paid with his life had victory not been won. There are congressmen today who will get medals—or who should—if Hitler wins.

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But the Civil War provides the best lesson. The political organization that won the Civil War was the Republican Party or perhaps it might be more accurate to say that it could not have been won without the Republican Party. This was because the Republican Party was born of the same forces that later brought the Civil War. It was dedicated in its founding to opposition to any extension of the slave system and it united in itself the industrial north and the agricultural west, the chief win-the-war forces in the Union. Out of it came the Congressional Committee for the Conduct of the War. This committee was tireless in ferreting out fifth columnists, in opposing and ousting northern generals who secretly favored the enemy, in fighting for the inclusion of Negroes in the armed forces of the United States, and in fighting generally for the progressive political fundamentals which were necessary before a successful military fight could be waged. But where is the parallel today? Where is the militant organization, either in or out of Congress in either major party, which consistently and tirelessly fights appeasement? Or which consistently and tirelessly fights all those assaults on the welfare of the people which threaten our victory in the war?

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THERE is none. Unless we honestly believe that victory can be won without organization and unity of progressive, win-the-war forces, I believe steps should be taken immediately to form a national win-the-war organization. I believe a national win-the-war convention should be called. I believe that labor should take the lead in doing so because I believe that the existence of labor is at stake, that it has by far the most to lose if we are defeated, that it has much to lose in the immediate future unless Congress is subjected to the organized pressure of all win-the-war forces. I believe that such a convention should formulate a complete win-the-war program, one protecting the people's welfare and one therefore all out for victory. I believe that it should oppose all forms of appeasement as a menace to American lives, that it should advocate real coalition warfare, a real coalition peace, and speedy carrying out of the Casablanca decisions. I believe it should include dirt farmers and small businessmen, Negroes and labor, and I believe it should press for representation of trade unions and real farmers in the government. I believe that this convention should form and finance a permanent people's lobby in Washington which will be more broad than anything similar in the past and more militant than any present force in pressing for victory.

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Americans in the past have always found it necessary to organize for victory. Unless we wish to depend on a Congress which does not know or feel the real desires of the people we must do so once again—now when our country faces the greatest threat in its history.

Collective Action Should Be Policy Of Negroes—Hastie

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

CINCINNATI, Ohio—(SNS)—Before an appreciative audience of three hundred and fifty dinner guests of the annual West End Branch YWCA, Judge William H. Hastiee justified the confidence of the YWCA in his recent stand for democracy. Judge Hastie recognizes Washington as the present center of information for the United Nations and the world.

According to the speaker, "the position of the Army in relation to the Negro catches our first serious consideration. The most serious is undoubtedly the attitude and legislative action of the Congress of the United States which has become highly reactionary and controlled by a small but strongly organized anti--Negro force.

Proir to the recent approximate equal division of Congress, the anti-Negro bloc was on the defensive. This situation has changed now as the weight of this block on either side of an issue puts the balance of power on that side. This was apparent in the recent attempts for poll-tax legislation where the issue looked hopeful in the Senate, was talked to death, and the motion for limited debate was lost. The sinister thing is the fact that in the cloak-rooms, halls, and outside the legislative chambers the death knell of the issues are determined by this small group.

"It is apparent that the Republican leadership has from time to time given comfort and other help which has made for loss of democratic issues. The Democratic leadership has been no better. As legislation arises this small group has blackmailed the democratic leadership which has succumbed. They have laid down the ultimatum that if you do not agree with us, or vote with us, we will join the Republican opposition and destroy your whole program."

Do not look for help from the National Democratic Leadership, it is regretable that a willful strong minority can control the destiny and suffering of so many people. The audience cheered when Hastie advised that Negroes let both Parties know that their votes shall follow the merits of the men and the legislation they endorse. Numerous insistances were given showing how this anti-block has annihilated Negro leadership in the Black Cabinet by withholding appropriations. Congressman Startling of Alabama demanded the list of Housing Projects all over the country where Negroes and whites were living together in order to build upon racial hatred and to satisfy his prejudice.

Hastie recommends that the American Negro should bend his collective action towards the following:

(1)—Promotion of community education to let our Congressmen know that we expect them to fight on vital issues affecting Negroes, especially one as important as unlimited debate where a 2-3 majority rule is a matter of public concern.

(2)—We are basically opposed to the seniority rule where the oldest member of a committee regardless of ability becomes the chairman. We expect to hear our Congressmen's voice rise in opposition to this rule.

(3) We are opposed to the committee skulduggery where our Congressmen of the North and South sit quietly by and permit to pass, unchallenged, the actions of anti-Negro forces.

(4)—Larger and more difficult are the demands upon the Negro who supports the Republican Party, that he puts pressure upon his Party and let them know of his expectations. Likewise, that Negro Democrats become vocal, letting their Party know that we know that they have sold out to the anti-Negro minority.

Both sides should be reminded of the action of the Negro in 1932 and that we shall not vote indefinitely on either side. We shall weigh men and issues between now and the 1944 Campaign, and the Party or Parties supporting democratic legislation of all peoples shall have our support."

Committee of Management—Mrs. Margaret Smith, Mrs. Lillie B. Smart, Miss Lila Rick, Mrs. Johnnie Mae Berry and Mrs. Jesse D. Locker. Nomination Committee — Mrs. Florida Anderson, Mrs. Vera Edwards, Miss Blanche Kalfus, Miss Mary Whittaker and Mrs. Marian Imes.

Mr. Randolph's War

Charlotte, N. C.

No sooner had we witnessed the death, so we thought, of the March on Washington Movement, in which its organizer, A. Philip Randolph, insisted that it should be an all-Negro movement, than now we read of his equally absurd suggestion that American Negroes form an All-Negro political party with himself at the head, of course.

Star of Zion

We have had the highest respect for Mr. Randolph's ability and for the fine work he has done in organizing the Pullman employees. He has made other valuable contributions to the improvement of the Negro's position in the American nation; but it now appears that he is either drunk with success, or he is discouraged to the point of utter desperation.

That segregation is a very general pattern throughout the nation is too evident to need comment, but the improvement of this pattern has been the chief concern of every decent and respectable citizen, white and colored, in the nation. How we can throw overboard all the concepts and techniques we have held and employed through the years and expect to win a battle against prejudice and segregation by practicing these very philosophies is more than any sane person can reason out, according to our way of thinking.

For years we advocated the splitting of the Negro vote and we lived to see most of the Negroes voting the Democratic ticket, while others voted for Socialists and even Communists. Now Mr. Randolph tells us that the way to win justice and equality is to get together in an all-Negro party, in which, the inference is, the best white friends of the Negro are to be denied membership.

We have heard of the technique of "fighting fire with fire," but the crackpot scheme now advanced by Mr. Randolph seems to us to be the most outlandish, impossible nightmare ever conceived. It may have merit, which our ordinary dumbness cannot conceive, but so far as we are able to see, we want none of this pipe-dream.

If we needed or wanted a formula for developing a situation identical with that of the Jews in Germany, we think this brainstorm of Randolph's would exactly fill the bill.

NEGROES OUTLINE POLITICAL STAND

Assert They Will Rigorously Oppose Any Reactionary Candidate at Polls

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Terms upon which Negro voters will support a candidate for President next year were announced yesterday by representatives of twenty-five Negro organizations made public by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The statement served notice that if either major political party should nominate for President or Vice President a candidate of vacillitating or reactionary character or with an anti-Negro record it would be opposed by the Negro vote and added:

"We repudiate cynical politicians, Negro and white, who attempt for personal profit to deter the Negro vote. The Negro voter has not yet chosen sides for 1944. His vote cannot be purchased by distributing money to and through party hacks. It cannot be won by pointing to jobs given a few individual Negroes. The Negro vote can no longer be won by meaningless generalities in party platforms which are promptly forgotten on election day.

"The Negro voter will support a political party which by words and deeds shows its determination to work for full citizenship status for thirteen million American Negroes and to better the lot of all disadvantaged people in this country.

"The Negro knows that his voting strength in seventeen or more States with 281 or more votes in the electoral college gives him the potential balance of power in any reasonably close national election and in many State and local elections. His vote no longer belongs to any one political party."

The statement demanded the right of the Negro to vote in every State unrestricted by poll taxes, while Democratic primaries or gerrymandering of districts, action against the evils of lynching and mob violence and an end to imperial and colonial exploitation. It also condemned segregation of and discrimination against Negroes in the armed forces and declared that any political party which hoped to obtain Negro support must adopt a new program with the following provisions:

Full integration of the Negro into the armed forces without segregation.

Abolition of quotas by race in the medical corps, nurse corps, technical and all other branches of the services.

A program of education in decent and democratic race relations to be carried out in the army and navy.

A revised navy program which will include acceptance of Negroes as commissioned officers, the use of Negroes in general and technical service in seagoing vessels and the acceptance of Negro women in the Waves, Spars and nurse corps without segregation.

Abolition of segregation in recreational and other facilities at army posts and naval shore installations and abolition of segregation of blood plasma.

Progressive removal of Negro troops from those areas where they are treated with violence, abuse and disrespect in the civilian community in view of the demonstrated inability of the federal authorities, military and civil to cope with such behavior.

The same opportunity as others to serve in combat forces.

Greenville, S. C., Observer
December 3, 1943

So. Caro. Negro Political Party Is Being Urged

COLUMBIA, Nov. 20.—Organization of a political party by the state's negroes was termed today by Dean K. W. Green, of South Carolina State college, one of the six essentials of "the way out for negroes in South Carolina."

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Association of Negro Colleges, Deans and Registrars in South Carolina, Green urged also that negroes 'talk the language of citizenship,' that a 'true' history about negroes be placed in negro and white schools, that negroes be 'totally organized,' that they launch an aggressive social reconstruction program, and that a vigorous program of racial understanding be prosecuted.

Dean E. H. Fitchell, of Claflin college, speaking on the status of negro education, cited differences in appropriations for the education of whites and negroes in the state, and said "efforts must be made to bring about an adjustment between the two groups."

Poll-Taxers Threaten To Help GOP in '44

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
DEC 8 1943

By Adam Lapin
(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Senator Josiah W. Bailey of North Carolina today threatened a bolt of reactionary Southern Democrats designed to throw the 1944 elections to the Republicans.

Bailey's threat came in the aftermath of the bitter Senate battle over the soldier vote bill in which poll tax Democrats lined up with Republicans to defeat the measure.

Senator Joseph [illegible], of Pennsylvania, chairman of the Democratic Senatorial Committee, had charged the Southern Senators and the Republicans with entering an "unholy alliance" to deny the soldiers the right to vote.

Reactionary Southern Senators followed up today with vitriolic personal attacks on Guffey—and with Bailey's threat.

Senator Harry Byrd, Virginia poll taxer, trotted out an old income tax indictment against Guffey and demanded that the Pennsylvania Senator resign his post as chairman of the Democratic Senatorial Committee.

THREATEN REVOLT

Bailey's speech actually confirmed Guffey's charge and indicated the possibility that the "Unholy Alliance" of which he spoke may be extended into the 1944 elections.

"We can form a Southern Democratic Party," Bailey said. "We hold the balance, and we can throw the elections into the House."

He declared that not another Democratic President [illegible] be elected if the poll tax politicians are driven [illegible] the party by "insults."

Bailey was surrounded by Southern Senators. As he spoke, he frequently pointed to his reactionary Southern colleagues. At one point he patted Senator Cotton Ed Smith of South Carolina on the shoulder.

"How long should we endure?" Bailey asked rhetorically. "How long should we forbear to defend our rights?"

In the meantime, the indignation movement against the Senate action in killing the soldier vote continued to grow.

The Railway Labor Executives Association endorsed the Green-Lucas bill "1,000 per cent." Secretary J. G. Lurhsen said that "if the Federal Government sends its citizens forth to die, it can likewise protect their voting rights and privileges in so doing."

A similar point was made by Rep. George H. Bender, Ohio Republican, who apparently realized that the action of Senate Republicans against the soldier vote may be political dynamite.

"I cannot believe that any member of this House would knowingly and deliberately vote to disfranchise the men whose heroism today preserves this nation, without whose actions we could not meet, without whose secrifices this nation could not endure," Bender said.

"The Federal Government has the power to raise an army. It is inconceivable that it does not have the power to protect the rights of those whom it has drafted."

Letter to the President:

This is a copy of a letter sent to the President

New York, N. Y.
[illegible] PM 1943

Dear Mr. President:

I was shocked when I saw in this morning's papers that the Board of Immigration Appeals had refused to set aside the deportation order against Raisa Browder. The attempt by the Government to separate a wife and mother from her family would be dreadful at any time, but it is particularly so now, when the Iran conference has emphasized the underlying need for decent treatment toward citizens of all the United Nations.

As far as I can make out, Mrs. Browder's "evasiveness" consisted in her refusal to attack the Soviet Government under which she had lived for many years, and to defame her husband and the American Communist Party of which he is the general secretary. In these days of close co-operation with the Soviet Union, many Americans had come to feel that the Government no longer would resort to persecuting individuals who refused to malign our gallant ally and the Communist Party in this country.

Aside from the unfortunate political aspects of this case, its human aspects are at least equally deplorable. I have referred to the breaking up of the Browder family. Because such results had come to be regarded as tragic and unnecessary, Congress recently passed a law authorizing the abandonment of deportation proceedings against alien members of American families where the only charge against them was their alleged failure to comply with technical entry requirements. Apparently, it is only in the case of Mrs. Browder that these humane provisions have been disregarded and the principle of equal protection of the laws ignored.

I appeal to you as the Chief Executive, Mr. President, to see that the laws are applied impartially, and that Mrs. Browder be permitted to live unmolested with her family in the United States.

New York PAUL ROBESON

ROGERS SAYS:

Negroes Would Have Most to Gain from a No-Party Political System

BY J. A. ROGERS

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa
NOV 20 1943

THE SWING to the Republicans in the last election reminds me of what Von Hartmann, the philosopher, said of life. He said it was like a bed-ridden man, who, worn from lying on one side, turned over on the other side, but that side soon got tired too and he had no recourse but to turn back on the old side.

Similarly, we have only two political parties. We have a chance of getting in and we shift wearily from one and then to the other. There was the last Republican regime: Soldiers selling apples on the street; a hundred applicants for every job; banks crashing everywhere and the savings of the poor vanishing in thin air. The nation shifted to the Democrats. Roosevelt put the nation running on an even keel again. But once more, for some reason, we are getting tired again and are shifting to the other side.



Mr. Rogers

SHOULD TRAIN OUR POLITICIANS

It seems to me that the whole trouble is that in politics we have only two sides. This is but once removed from the dictator countries where there's only one. When I go to the polls I ask myself what had I to do in selecting the man I am voting for? Really, nothing at all. He was handpicked for me by men whom [illegible] I would object to strongly. All I can do is to make an X, or do not vote.

WE WILL have clean politics only when we have five or six parties, or much better, none at all. Candidates should be selected directly by the people. Prospective candidates should go to government schools, where after they pass examinations in government, should then be presented free of expense to the people through circular and radio, and then let the people pick them. We have Civil Service even for street cleaners but none for such a very important job as U.S. Senator. The chief qualification for the latter is sometimes only the gift of gab.

DIRTY POLITICS

Candidates elected free of party could then act independently. Our present system tends to rob the man in office of real manhood and integrity. For instance, there was Hugo Black, a good man now in the Supreme Court, but who had to be a Ku Kluxer to succeed in Alabama politics. New York, too, has just witnessed an amazing scene. Thomas Aurelio, an apparently honest magistrate, was nominated for the state supreme court. It later was revealed that a notorious racketeer, Costello, had a leading hand in his nomination. Aurelio pretended, and was upheld by the courts, that he did not know of Costello's record. But was not Aurelio indebted to Costello? Might he not have granted Costello favors especially if Aurelio sought a second term?

TAMMANY HALL, which has had much to say in the election of congressmen, senators and presidents, has had, also, an awful record. Ward politics is still very far from being clean and if the little streams that go to make up the big river are not clean then the river itself can't be clean. In other words, local politics reaches to the White House.

FDR'S HANDS ARE TIED

Negroes, I feel, would have the most to gain by a no-party system. Every President of the United States since Washington has been a blunderer on the race question, Lincoln being one of the worst. However, I do think these Presidents would have liked to do the right thing but their hands were tied by their party.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, in my opinion, is a fine, good-hearted gentleman who would like to do much more for Negroes than he has done. But his hands are tied. Fifty-five per cent of the most important congressional committees are held by Southerners, who would gang up on him and gum up the federal machinery and the war were he to insist on equal-

CLEAN POLITICS WOULD BENEFIT RACE

Some of these Southerners are good men at heart, too, as I said of Hugo Black, but they, too, must take orders or run afoul of the party machine in their own states. Don't forget there are billions of dollars involved by the exploitation of the 8,000,000 Negroes in the South, and through that, the exploitation of millions more poor whites by the rich Northern-

THE NEGRO'S freedom will eventually come largely through politics, but it will have to be independent politics. At present we have no really clean, independent politics. At present we have no really independent men, high or low, in office. All have to play with the combine that [illegible] them in power, and [illegible] ways rotten. Every individuals in the combines. Every office-holder, from the President downwards, has to take certain orders from his party, and in the case of the Negro the order has always been that he must be permitted to go only so far and no farther.

American politics is going to remain a mess until it has more than one side to which to shift.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

Negro Parley Adopts Political Yardstick for 1944 Nominees

All political parties have been notified by twenty national organizations of Negro voters that Negroes will henceforth throw their support to the party that proves "in words and deeds its determination to work for full citizenship for thirteen millions American Negroes in this country."

In a sharply-worded "yardstick for the measurement of political parties," the Negro organizations declare that their voting strength may be the balance of power in a close national election, and that the Negro's vote "no longer belongs to any one party."

The demand is made that racial prejudice and other manifestations of fascism must be crushed at home as well as abroad. The manifesto stresses the Negro's interest in other important issues, such as price control, social security, post-war employment, post-war housing, and the rights of organized labor. Every candidate must be judged by his position on these questions, as well as by his attitude toward lynching, Jim Crowism, the poll tax, gerrymandering, and other devices to disenfranchise the Negro.

The declaration of the twenty Negro organizations called for the end of imperialism and colonial exploitation.

Segregation was condemned, and especially discrimination against Negroes in the armed forces. The statement served notice on all politicians that "the Negro vote cannot be delivered by venal individuals for personal profit. The Negro has come of age politically."

Among the twenty-four leaders of these organizations who signed the declaration were Walter White, A. Philip Randolph, Mary McLeod Bethune, Judge William H. Hastie, George W. Millner, Bishop W. J. Walls and George L. P. Weaver.

WILLKIE VS. ROOSEVELT

Wendell Willkie would like to succeed President Roosevelt in the White House. He thinks that he could do a better job. Afro-American Baltimore, Md

In the current issue of Readers' Digest, Mr. Willkie pleads with the President for better management, and adds that if our fighting on the front were led with such confusion as we are led at home, we could lose this war.

If Byrnes and Warren, the Carolina twins, are to take over home front administration, Willkie may be a prophet. We will prolong the war, and we can lose the peace.

WILLKIE ON G.O.P. POLICIES

If Wendell Willkie is not nominated for the Presidency, he will not support whoever is, he told Congressmen in Washington recently.

Mr. Willkie said that he was in favor of party unity, but if the party nominated an isolationist like Hamilton Fish or Colonel Robert McCormick of the Chicago Tribune, he'd take a walk. That's what Al Smith did when his party insisted on naming F. D. R. for a third time.

Abraham Lincoln wanted to save the Union above everything, but even Lincoln had to discover that national unity had to be founded on no compromise with slaveholders.

The trouble with the Republican party since Lincoln is, however, that it supported men whom it knew were not the right men to lead the party and threw its beliefs in human rights and equality out of the window.

Republicans whipped the South on the slave question and then didn't keep it defeated.

In some respects today we are right back where we were 83 years ago. It's time that we learned the lesson Mr. Willkie advocates so ably, that we will not support a party of reaction for the sake of unity, whether those reactionaries are segregationists or isolationists.

Negro Enemy No. 1

Washington Tribune

It is time for the Negroes to rise up and bury Edgar G. Brown and his non-existant National Negro Council along with him. Washington, D. C.

Mr. Brown, who seems to have plenty of time on his hands these days, makes his way around Capitol Hill, easing in and out of Congressional hearings, leaving his venom in the proceedings of Congressional Committees.

His latest episode was his appearance before the Senate Appropriations Committee this week, urging upon the group the dissolution of the Negro press section of the Office of War Information.

Brown, who uses the Negro press to publish his weekly diatribes, knifes that press in the back by sneaking on the Hill and urging the Senate to cut off from the press its main source of receiving authentic news on the war.

In the first place, the question was not even properly before the committee, which was holding hearings on a $5,000,000 appropriation for the overseas branch of OWI. The Negro press section is a feature of the domestic branch, and, as Senator Gerald Nye pointed out, the committee could take no action on Brown's complaint.

Brown complained that the Negro press section of OWI was a New Deal propaganda unit, and that while to distribute the same information to the white press may be legitimate news, it becomes propaganda when it reaches the Negro press.

The section of OWI servicing the Negro press is probably the most effective and efficiently-operated information section of any Government unit.

Its chief is a trained newspaper man—one of the best in the country, without regard to race. He has a keen sense of the type of news the Negro press wants, and he knows how to get it.

The picture service of OWI is responsible for at least fifty per cent of the pictures appearing in Negro newspapers, and they are not propaganda pictures, but photographs of world events as they are unfolding from day to day.

The Negro is in this war the same as any other American. The heads of Negro Republics have been the guests of the President the same as heads of white Republics. Brown's position is that for the OWI to send out pictures of the President with the President of Cuba, constitutes news, but to send out pictures of the President with the Chief Executive of Liberia or Haiti, is New Deal propaganda.

He said exactly the things that the Southern members of the Senate Appropriations Committee wanted to hear from the lips of a Negro. It was what they had been saying all along. The Negro, they and Brown feel, has no place in the American Government.

It was this same Brown who called for the resignation of NAACP's Walter White, because Mr. White objected to an amendment to the Educational Bill, which Brown proposed, and resulted in the defeat of the measure that would have brought millions of dollars to Negro education.

It was this same Brown who extolled the virtues of the New Deal when he was on its C.C.C. payroll, but made a right-about-face to the Republican Party, when he lost his New Deal job.

It was this same Brown who tried to blackjack his way onto the OPA payroll, after losing out to the CCC.

It was this same Brown who asked Congress to abolish the WPA from which millions of Negroes were benefiting.

It was this same Brown who appeared before Congress in opposition to a bill to give suffrage to the District of Columbia.

In other words, Brown is in favor of everything that the white South wants and against all those things which the Negro wants. Yet he claims to be president of a National Negro Council representing four million Negroes.

We said here last week and we repeat here now, that there is no National Negro Council, and if Brown continues to betray his race, as we see it—it would be better were there no self-styled leader such as Edgar G. Brown.

When that day comes, there will be cause for a great rejoicing.

ARE REPUBLICANS SMART?

That was a smart rooster that drafted the "non-aggression pact" in which he and the horse were to be the "high contracting parties." The rooster proposed that he and the horse would agree, as dwellers in the barnyard, not to tread on each other's feet. Globe & Independent

That particular item of history is repeated, it appears, in the proposal by Mr. Hull and other leading Democrats for the Republicans and Democrats to agree on the same "foreign policy" plank for the 1944 platforms of the two parties. In the rooster-horse proposal, the rooster had all to gain and nothing to lose by committing the horse to a pledge not to tread on the rooster's feet. Likewise, the Democrats have all to gain and nothing to lose in a pledge by Republicans to endorse the foreign policy of the present Democratic Administration.

The way Republican leaders behaved in 1940, in permitting the isolationist interests, in connivance with Democrats, to give the Republicans a life-long Democrat as the party's nominee for the Presidency, gives every reason to be concerned about whether or not the leaders next year will be ridiculous enough to underwrite the foreign policies of the Democrats, and thereby hand the election to them on a silver platter, as they did in 1940. Nashville, Tenn.

The masses of the people, as recent elections returns show, are overwhelmingly opposed to the present administration's foreign policies. They think that no other administration would adopt and carry out foreign policies capable of producing as many headaches for the people as they have endured since Mr. Roosevelt went off to war with Mr. Winston Churchill.

In 1932 the slogan was: "Vote for Roosevelt because conditions couldn't possibly be any worse than they have been under Hoover."

In 1944, Republicans might well say: "Vote for Dewey, because things couldn't possibly get any worse than they are under Roosevelt."

Republicans couldn't use such a slogan

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

AS WE SEE MR. WILLKIE

Globe and Independent

It is possible that Mr. Wendell Willkie is the "changed man" that his speeches in recent months have indicated. On the other hand, only those who let their emotions get the bettter of them will appraise Mr. Willkie's conversion to liberalism as highly as the press agents for the political leader desire.

The background of Mr. Willkie, and the background of the forces which are pushing him forward for the Republican Presidential nomination in 1944 deserve careful consideration before jumping on the Willkie bandwagon. However, it can be admitted that Mr. Willkie has made great headway in capturing for himself the enthusiasm of American Negroes by the way he has voiced their griefs and aspirations in his recent addresses.

The notable speech Mr. Willkie delivered on a nation-wide radio hook-up last week undoubtedly made a great impression with American Negroes. It was a truth-telling and timely speech and required great courage of a seeker after political preferment, such as Mr. Willkie undoubtedly is. We doubt, however—that the speech increases to any great extent Mr. Willkie's availability as the 1944 Republican nominee. He is still the defeated 1940 candidate for the Presidency, with many more enemies among the practical politicians of the Republican Party than he had that year. As an endorser of the internationalism of the Democratic Party, Mr. Willkie is to be considered still more of a Democrat than he is a Republican. It will not be good political strategy for the Republicans in 1944 to nominate an internationalist as their candidate for the Presidency.

Republicans have a chance to repeat in 1944 the record in vote-getting they set in 1920. But it will be necessary for them to avoid naming a candidate who has gone as far as Mr. Willkie has in approving the "World-saving" commitments of the Democratic Party.

But Republican leaders need to be warned that Mr. Willkie's speech of last week was such a bid for the support of Negro voters as to make it necessary that a Republican Presidential nominee of equal or greater popularity with Negro voters be chosen in 1944. Such a person is NOT Gen. Douglas McArthur nor is it Mr. Hanford McNider. Neither name is capable of arousing the enthusiasm among Negro voters that Mr. Willkie's name arouses.

The name that can even overshadow the glamor of the Willkie name is that of Thomas E. Dewey. Mr. Dewey can and will take his stand on great public questions, including the rights of American Negroes, with a clarity and vigor equal to Mr. Willkie. And what he says will appeal more forcefully to Negroes than anything Mr. Willkie says because, Mr. Dewey has a record of friendship for and fair-dealing with Negroes that is unmatched by either Mr. Willkie or any other leader being mentioned for the Presidential nomination.

Mr. Dewey can prove his faith by his WORKS. Mr. Willkie can prove his faith by his WORDS, only. Even the many and timely things Mr. Willkie said in last week's speech can be set down as nothing more substantial than the kind of expressions that usually are put into political party platforms. They would likely be put into a platform on which Mr. Wilklie would run for the Presidency. But what, can be sure, would be Mr. Willkie's devotion to his promises?

Mr. Willkie said last week, for instance: "They (Negroes) have a right—as has every citizen—to the elimination of all arbitrary restrictions on voting, through taxation or otherwise."

That sounds good. But we have a right to ask does Mr. Willkie favor a federal law that will eliminate the poll tax in eight Southern states. He did not favor such a law in 1940. He boldly advocated state action in eliminating the poll tax. He proved that he was still a reactionary Democrat, wedded to the archaic states' rights doctrine. This acknowledgment he makes about Negroes having the "right" to be relieved of the poll tax yoke does not commit Mr. Willkie to federal relief from the poll tax evil. Only the ultra-emotional among American Negroes will see in any of the pronouncements Mr. Willkie made anything but the usual catch-phrases of office seekers.

Bereft of any record of performance in a government office, Mr. Willkie would be "duck soup" for President Roosevelt in the hectic war of words that will characterize the 1944 Presidential campaign. We still contend that Thomas E. Dewey, by odds, is the ablest statesman and debater the Republicans have to challenge the gifted Mr. Roosevelt next year.

Nashville, Tenn.

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52d-1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Willkie's Platform

Wendell Willkie has "oomph." His announcement in Look magazine that he is available as a Republican candidate for President makes three points that need to be pondered:

1. **A Pledge**—"We must never forget that, while democratic government rests on majority rule, the essence of freedom is the protection of minorities. The Republican party has always advocated equal rights for all, irrespective of race, creed or color. Now, above all times, we must make these principles a reality, because the whole world is watching us. . . . We must not protect these rights fitfully, inconsistently, and with political purposes."
2. **A Confession**—The GOP, under Lincoln, was a party of progress. Afterward, for seventy years, its ideal was freedom for every American, big or little, black or white. But . . . it became corrupted, forgot its liberal traditions, ceased to look ahead. The people lost confidence, never quite regained it.
3. **A Condemnation**—The present Democratic party is a combination of two major groups, neither liberal in outlook. One group is composed of big-city political machines, Hague in Jersey City, Kelly in Chicago, Flynn in New York City; and the other is composed of Southern Democrats, professional officeholders who completely control the South's political machinery by denying the vote to the majority of its citizens, colored and white.

The Democratic Weakness

Mr. Willkie has put his finger on one appalling weakness of the Democratic party—the necessity of its reliance upon a poll tax Southern bloc in Congress which opposes the ballot for all citizens.

Because of the small number of persons who can qualify in the eight poll tax States (Tenn., Tex., Va., Ala., Ark., Ga., Miss., S.C.), the same poll taxers come back to Congress year after year.

By the principle of seniority, under which the Congressmen with the longest tenures become committee chairmen, the poll taxers exercise vast control over the committees of the House and Senate.

Of 24 major Congressional committees, 10 have poll tax chairmen; 14 have poll taxers as next ranking members. Thus, 10 of the 24 most important and 14 of the 24 in the House are headed by poll taxers.

The representatives of the poll tax States have, therefore, a major voice in the control of legislation affecting the entire country.

The bill to repeal the poll tax has been passed by the House but kicked around in the Senate, which failed to act on it last spring.

Effort is being made this week to bring it to a vote.

If it fails, the Democratic party is serving notice on the country that Willkie is right—the quickest way to break the poll tax influence in the nation is to elect a Republican Congress in 1944.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Says F.D.R. Has Rendered Only "Lip Service" to Race

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9—Charging that the Roosevelt administration has merely rendered "lip service" to the legitimate demands of 13,000,000 colored people in the nation, Edgar G. Brown, national director of the National Negro Council, called upon Negroes throughout the country to register their protest by voting Republican in the next election.

REPUBLICAN

REPUBLICAN WIN FEARED BY EX-SOLON

SEP 18 1943

Congressman Urges New Deal Action To Win Back Race Vote

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Unless the Democratic party rouses itself on the Negro question, it is doomed to defeat in 1944, Ex-Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell asserted here this week.

The former Illinois representative to Congress was in Chicago over the past week end, having addressed the National Baptist convention on Thursday evening, and was visited by the Chicago Defender at his suite in the DuSable hotel. He talked freely on numerous issues, the most interesting of which was the likelihood of a Negro switch to the Republican fold in the coming general elections.

"The Democratic party has done much for Negroes and there can be no doubt that President Roosevelt has been the greatest liberal the White House has ever seen. But the Democrats are asleep and if they don't wake up soon, the colored voters are going to desert them.

"This is no more than they should do," continued the man who served a decade as a representative of the party in Congress. "The Negro is absolutely right in hitching his wagon to the star which promises to lift him to his rightful place in the firmament. When one political party goes to sleep, it is entirely likely the other party will be prepared to make the best of its past mistakes.

Lauds First Lady

"No more could be asked of any man than the President has delivered, and certainly Mrs. Roosevelt has 'stuck her neck out' in pursuing the democratic course she believes in. The First Family has done its job, and well. It is the attitude of the 'other element' in the party that has provoked the state of dormancy into which it has drifted."

Mitchell, who has been living as a gentleman farmer on a 41-acre site near Petersburg, Va., since his retirement from Congress in 1940, was asked if he ever intended to return to politics and, whether he does or not, would he care to express himself on the fourth term question.

Answering the latter query first, Mitchell pointed out that one man's opinion on the subject mattered little in a country with a voting population of 84,000,000. As an individual, however, he feels that the war has reached a stage now where there must be more than one man in a country so great, capable of guiding it through to the end.

Seeks Closer Race Ties

On the question of his retirement from politics, Mitchell referred to his farewell address on the floor of the House of Representatives, when he declared that although he was retiring from Congress he was not retiring from work.

He said, "I stated at the time of my retirement that I expected to give the remainder of my life and means to an effort to improve race relations in the South. To that end I have purchased a farm in Southern Virginia. It is there I now make my home, and it is there that I am laying the plans for my future work in the field of race relations.

"You may be interested to know that I have already contacted some of the Southern governors and high officials, and very soon I plan to visit several of their states, particularly the ones in which army camps are located and where our boys have had trouble. I think something definite and effective can be done to improve these conditions. I know something should be done."

Asked what he thought of the March On Washington movement, Mitchell declared that he had little or no confidence in that approach. He emphasized that a minority group such as we are should be seeking and developing more real friendships. He does not see, he said, how such a movement can make lasting friends for the race.

Doubts Extension of "Freedoms"

Questioned about the FEPC and whether or not he thought it would be able to function effectively, the former congressman lamented, "The FEPC was created for a worthy purpose, but for some reason it has not been able to render the service for which it was meant."

Several years ago, when he was a member of the 74th congress, Mr. Mitchell stated, he introduced a bill (HR 5733) in which he sought to have established an Industrial Commission on Negro Affairs. Had it been enacted into law, Mitchell held, the legislation would have covered our situation more adequately than the FEPC, with its present powers, can ever be expected to do.

In his speech before the National Baptist convention, Mitchell reviewed the action brought by him against the Rock Island railroad company, and which was decided in his favor. He traced the history of the case from the time he was ejected from the Pullman car and forced to continue his ride from Chicago to Little Rock, Ark., in a jim-crow car, to the victory which was achieved in the Supreme court.

The obvious purpose of the talk was to prevail upon the delegates to take back to their various communities an idea of the importance of the victory and what it means to the Negro interstate traveler in this country.

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Tammany May Put Negro on Ticket

By RAY GHENTS,
World-Telegram Staff Writer.

Plans of Tammany and American Labor Party left wing leaders for a routine nomination for City Court justice were sharply upset today by Governor Dewey's naming of a Negro Republican leader, Francis Ellis Rivers, a senior assistant district attorney, to the $17,500 post left vacant by the death of Justice James C. Madigan.

The Governor's move, regarded as a smart one politically, forced the Democrats and ALP to a quick reconsideration of their original ideas to nominate Internal Revenue Collector Joseph T. Higgins.

Prospects are that the Democrats, meeting tonight under pressure from the Marcantonio faction of the ALP, which holds a balance of power, may also take a Negro as candidate. Among those under consideration are Muncipal Court Justice Charles E. Toney, James E. Watson and former Assistant State Attorney General Darwin W. Telesford, now secretary to Supreme Court Justice Benjamin F. Schreiber.

To complicate the situation, there still is in Tammany considerable sentiment for Mr. Higgins, but it is conceded that ALP support would be needed for him.

The Republican executive committee meets tomorrow to nominate Mr. Rivers and the ALP will act on Friday night.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Dixie Scares Mrs. Roosevelt

WASHINGTON

Declaring that the South is get-ting Mrs. Roosevelt "scared," Per-lecture that the South has been

NEGRO PROSECUTOR MADE CITY JUSTICE

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Dewey Appoints Rivers to Fill $17,500 Post — Republicans to Name Him for Full Term

The appointment of Francis E. Rivers, Negro Assistant District Attorney, to a vacancy in the City Court in New York County was announced yesterday by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey in Albany. The appointment to the $17,500 job is good only until the end of the year, but Mr. Rivers will be nominated for a full ten-year term by the New York County Republican Executive Committee at a meeting tomorrow.

The job to which Mr. Rivers was named is the highest-paid and the highest-ranking judicial job ever given to a member of the Negro race in the State and possibly the nation, and was accepted in political circles as a shrewd political stroke on the part of the Governor. It caused a sharp revising of plans on the part of Tammany and the left wing that controls the American Labor party in New York County.

Tammany will make its nomination tonight, and the chances are good that the Democrats also will name a Negro for the post.

Position of Marcantonio

Vito Marcantonio, left wing ALP leader, is understood to be urging the nomination of either a Negro or an Italian to the post, on the ground of greater representation for minorities, and the Rivers appointment by the Governor was regarded as giving him an excellent talking point, if the Democrats and the ALP are to have a joint ticket.

The vacancy to which Mr. Rivers was named was caused by the death of Justice James C. Madigan, who died after the primary election, in which he had received the nomination of the Democratic, Republican and Labor parties. Justice Madigan was a Democrat, finishing a ten-year term on the bench. The recent furor over the joint nomination by the Democrats and the Republicans of Magistrate Thomas A. Aurelio for the Supreme Court ended any possibility of agreement on Justice Madigan's successor.

If the Democrats and the Labor party unite in opposition to Mr. Rivers, there is little chance of his election, but from the point of view of the Governor, considerable political advantage nevertheless will have been created. Mr. Rivers was one of two Negroes who applied for membership in the American Bar Association, and the failure of the association to act on his application led to wide publicity, and the resignation from the group of Arthur Garfield Hays and General Sessions Judge Jonah J. Goldstein. Mr. Rivers, asked about his Bar Association application yesterday, said it was still pending. Word from the association's headquarters in Chicago was that no action would be taken until the board of governors meets, at a date not yet set.

Rivers Former Assemblyman

Mr. Rivers, who is 50 years old, is married and lives at 305 Convent Avenue. He is a former Assemblyman, a member of the New York County Republican Committee, and is a brother of Dr. Mark Rivers, a former Republican district leader. He has long been a popular figure in the Harlem area.

He was graduated from Yale in 1915, was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and was graduated from Columbia Law School in 1922, having served in the First World War in the interim. During the war he was a first lieutenant in the infantry and served in the Argonne.

Admitted to the bar in 1923, Mr. Rivers served for a short time as a member of the Assembly from the Nineteenth Assembly District, and returned to private practice until Jan. 1, 1938, when Mr. Dewey, then District Attorney, named him as an assistant. He continued under Frank Hogan. He said yesterday that he would apply for a leave of absence from Mr. Hogan's office until after election.

In 1940 Mr. Rivers was chairman of the Colored Division of the Republican National Committee. He has been chairman of the Harlem Division of the Greater New York Fund, was a member of the legislative committee studying the urban Negro problem, and is a member of the Elks and the Masons.

Called a High Honor

Commenting on his appointment yesterday, Mr. Rivers said:

"The appointment is a unique honor for me. It is a great tribute to the courage of Governor Dewey that he has appointed a Negro to the City Court of New York. It is the highest appointment for any Negro in America."

At City Hall, Mayor La Guardia, when informed of the appointment, said:

"That's nice."

The executive committee of the ALP in New York County, which was to have acted on the City Court vacancy last night, postponed action until later in the week, possibly Friday, after the Rivers appointment. On the Tammany side, Internal Revenue Collector Joseph T. Higgins is the leading possibility, if a non-Negro is to be named ,while if the post goes to a Negro, Municipal Court Justices Charles E. Toney and James S. Watson are under consideration.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Willkie Promises Negroes A Much Better America

LOS ANGELES—(ANP)—"If I am elected President of the United States, I am devoted to make this country a better place for the Negro people to live in," was the pronouncement of Wendell L. Willkie, 1940 Republican Presidential nominee, at his city-wide press conference at the Biltmore hotel, Wednesday.

Here in the city to address a series of Third War Loan meetings, the author of "One World," when asked to be more specific, told reporters, "The Negro people are Americans, and as such, they are entitled to all the rights and privileges enjoyed by any other group in this country."

Continuing his clarification, Mr. Willkie declared, "Soon after the Detroit riots I went on record over the air as advocating better housing facilities, equal educational opportunities, more and better-type jobs and in general freedom to live and enjoy the blessings of this great country."

While Mr. Willkie was indefinite regarding whether he would be the Negro's favorite candidate in the coming Presidential elections, he, however, assured his press conference that he has made many more friends in the group since 1940.

"I cannot go on record as saying that I will be the favorite of the Negro people, but this I know, due to my expressed beliefs, and my exemplification of them, I feel that I have won their confidence. Their appreciation will be shown by the stand they will take at the polls.

"Politics or no politics, vote or no vote, I have never hedged on the race question. I have always said the things I believe in. I have always, and will always, fight for the principles that I believe are just and right, regardless of race, color or creed."

Informed of the unhealthy housing situation in Los Angeles as it pertains to the Negro people, when querried about a possible solution, Mr. Willkie declared, "It would seem that such a condition calls for continued fight on the part of civic and other interrested groups.

"Quite often when the city, State and Federal Governments ignore a situation, it may be due to the fact that the injured persons do not fight hard and seriously enough. If they are, then they must not give up the ship"

Mr. Willkie, who will definitely throw his hat in the ring as a candidate for President next year, stated that he was quite elated over the support given the war effort by Negroes all over the country, and particularly the present bond drive.

Challenge GOP Claim Of Better Deal For Negro

Defender
Chicago, Ill

NEW YORK.—"The Republican Party will again undertake its historic task of working for the betterment of the Negro people" after the defeat of the New Deal in 1944, Harrison E. Spangler, chairman of the Republican National Committee, declared this week.

This statement, contained in a letter to Walter White, N.A.A.C.P. secretary, was sharply challenged by White who pointed out that the present record of the Republicans in Congress had caused "thoughtful Negroes of the United States to entertain very real doubts" of such action. White emphasized that the Hoover administration particularly, as well as the administrations of Harding and Coolidge, convinced Negroes that the GOP was not "working for the betterment of the Negro people."

The continued alliance in the present and recent Congresses of conservative northern Republicans and southern Democrats "has done and is doing infinite harm to the Negro," the N.A.A.C.P. secretary declared. The Soldier Vote Bill was cited as an example of the operation of this coalition by White who asserted, "the shameless betrayal of nearly 11,000,000 members of the armed services, at least 10 per cent of them Negro, would never have been put over had not 18 Republican senators joined with 24 Democrats to pass the Eastland-McKellar-McClellan substitute."

Also set forth in the N.A.A.C.P. letter were the filibusters against the anti-lynching bill and the anti-poll tax bill. White charged that the Republicans in the Senate refused to vote for cloture which could have broken the filibuster on both bills and permitted them to come to a vote.

Congressman John Taber (Rep.-N.Y.) was singled out by White for his anti-Negro speeches and activities in connection with the OWI pamphlet, "Negroes and the War."

Referring to the appearance before the National Republican club in New York City on December 11 of Senator W. Lee (Pass the Biscuits Pappy) O'Daniel of Texas, White declared:

"The taking to the bosom of an important unit of the Republican party of an individual like Senator O'Daniel certainly is not reassuring to us that the Republican Party will again undertake its historic task of working for the betterment of the Negro people.'"

In acknowledging the receipt of "A Declaration of Negro Voters," Chairman Spangler wrote:

"I am firmly convinced that when the people have completed in 1944 their plainly indicated plan of removing the New Deal from our national life, the Republican Party will again undertake its historic task of working for the betterment of the Negro people as well as all others."

First Race Alderman In St. Louis

Chicago Illinois
Defender

ST. LOUIS —The Rev. Jasper C. Caston, 44-year-old pastor of the Memorial Baptist church, Tuesday became alderman of the Sixth ward, the first Negro elected in the city's history.

Rev. Caston, Republican, defeated his Democratic opponent, Joseph B. Schweppe, by a vote of 1,672 to 422. In an interview before the election, he said that he was politically a "progressive," favoring anything "that is best for the people."

The new alderman-elect is a graduate of Western college (then at Macon, Mo.) and served three years as superintendent of missions for the National Baptist Convention Inc., in Liberia.

Tuesday's election represented the first time that St. Louis elected its alderman by wards instead of by city-wide vote. The new system proved very effective. Under the old system, whichever party carried the city as a whole swept into office all its aldermanic candidates, including those who were beaten in their own wards.

52d-1943

The Return of the Republican Party

Star of Zion
Charlotte, N. C.
MAY 27 1943

Governor Harold E. Stassen, of Minnesota, in current issues of the Saturday Evening Post, sets forth what he considers the vital issues of the nation as it approaches the post-war era. By the adoption of these "principles" he assumes that "the Republican Party can prove itself a match for the times," and, he indirectly intimates, can be returned to power and control of the federal government. The following are the cornerstones upon which he would erect the G. O. P. platform:

"The first and foremost is to provide an environment in which free enterprise, individual initiative and ingenuity can produce with reasonably full effectiveness.

"The second is to maintain a supplementary program of valuable public improvements to make worthwhile use of any portion of our manpower not used by private enterprise.

"The third is to provide for an economic floor below which the living standards of no member of our American community will be allowed to fall.

"The fourth is to measure the worth and validity of all our economic and political policies, not on a material basis alone but in terms of their contribution to the dignity of the individual, his cultural development and the growth of his character."

On their face these seem to be very progressive and sane suggestions, although in the main they have a very distinct flavor of Hooveristic "rugged individualism," which gives us a rather sickening feeling in our middle portion. However, Governor Stassen amplifies: "The first principle will require some very sharp changes of Government policy." But he adds: "This does not mean an all-out repeal of the New Deal. But the New Deal climate, in its antagonisms to the American productive system, cannot be repealed too soon."

This deduction again arouses our suspicion, for we remember how very favorable the Republican Party has been to the "American productive system," and how at the same time "the dignity of the individual" was sometimes entirely forgotten.

Governor Stassen says further: "A sharp change is also required to emphasize that the standard of living of the people comes from their production. It does not come from Government." This is, indeed, strange and fallacious reasoning coming from a man of such reputed knowledge, for we know that American industry in peace times reached the peak of production under the Republican Party's regime, but the Government deliberately permitted the selfishness of the profit motive to grind the laborers into the earth. The standard of living in no adequate sense kept pace with the productivity of industry.

The standard of living does come from production, but only when Government is strong and virile enough to see that the workers receive their fair share of the fruits of their labor in production.

Governor Stassen makes another serious and culpable error when he says: ". . . the productive processes of the country should not bear the disproportionately heavy tax burden they now carry . . . but that more of the burden of taxation . . . must be carried by all the people as consumers." It is quite an easy and simple matter to transfer the burden of taxation from the rich to the poor in this way. Hidden taxes fall very heavily upon the poor people who must spend the major part of their incomes for the necessities of life.

Certainly we cannot endorse the New Deal in totality, and there are many features of the Democratic administration which we emphatically condemn, but we will have to have a better statement of principles from the Republican Party than those pronounced by Governor Stassen before we can whole-heartedly endorse the return of the Grand Old Party to control of the national Government.

We are not unmindful of the great eras of prosperity that attended the administrations of the Republican Party in the past, though they seemed much greater in magnitude then than now; we know the traditional feeling of American Negroes toward the Republican Party, but happily that is past. It was just as unwise to have a solid Negro vote as to have a Solid South. The Negro voter of 1944 will exercise greater intelligence than in the past; by painful disillusionment he has learned a great many things about American politics.

ASKS ALL NEGROES VOTE REPUBLICAN

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Brown, Head of Negro Council, Charges 'Jim Crow Policies' in the Armed Forces

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2 (U.P.)—Edgar G. Brown, national director of the Negro Council, called on Negro voters today to support Republican candidates in special elections this fall and in the Presidential campaign next year.

Mr. Brown said the council, a federation of several Negro organizations, would campaign for Republican votes among the nation's 13,000,000 Negroes in protest against an Administration which, he said, was maintaining "Jim Crow policies in the military services and on the home front."

The Administration of President Roosevelt, Mr. Brown charged, had "merely rendered lip service" to principles of non-discrimination. He said Negroes had been "flagrantly discriminated against" in the Government's housing programs and in nurses' training projects, as well as in the armed services.

Mr. Brown called for "repudiation of every Democratic office-seeker in New York, New Jersey, Kentucky and Philadelphia in the special elections this fall, and of the national administration next year."

He said Republican leaders had indicated more determination to do something about the Negro's plight than had Democratic office-holders.

Wendell L. Willkie, he said, successfully interceded with the motion picture industry to portray the Negro's real contributions to the war effort. Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York appointed a Negro to the State Boxing Commission. Gov. John W. Bricker of Ohio appointed a Negro to succeed a white judge. Mr. Brown cited other instances.

Asserting that it would be "traitorous to his race" for a Negro to vote Democratic, Mr. Brown said his organization was concerned not with partisanship but with "advancing the victory of the United Nations in our own country."

"Negroes," he said, "want to be considered as American citizens entitled to the same security and protection that other citizens enjoy."

Negro Leader Urges Support Of Republicans

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.
By the Associated Press

Edgar G. Brown, national director of the Negro Council, called upon Negroes yesterday to vote for Republicans in the next election in protest against what he terms the Administration's "Jim Crow policies in the military services and on the home front."

"By the repudiation of every Democratic office seeker in New York, New Jersey, Kentucky and Philadelphia in the special elections this fall, and of the national Administration next year," he said in a statement, "The Negro will definitely advance the uncompromising fight to end once and for all the continued disfranchisement, segregation and unequal treatment of the colored race."

Brown said the council had four million members affiliated with Negro church and insurance groups.

Willkie Pledges Better America For All People

Daily World

Feels He Has Won Confidence Of Race Citizens

Atlanta, Ga.

By J. ROBERT SMITH

LOS ANGELES — (ANP) — "If I am elected president of the United States, I am devoted to make this country a better place for the Negro people to live in," was the pronouncement of Wendell L. Willkie, 1940 Republican Presidential nominee at his city-wide press conference at the Biltmore Hotel, Wednesday.

OCT 3 1943

Here in the city to address a series of third war bonds meetings, the author of "One World," when asked to be more specific told reporters, "The Negro people are Americans, as such they are entitled to all the rights and privileges enjoyed by any other group in this country."

ADVOCATED HOUSING

Continuing his clarification, Mr. Willkie declared, "Soon after the Detroit riots, I went on record over the air as advocating better housing facilities, equal educational opportunities, more and better type jobs and in general, freedom to live and enjoy the blessings of this great country."

While Mr. Willkie was indefinite regarding whether he would be the Negro's favorite candidate in the coming presidential elections, he, however, assured his press conference that I will be the favorite of the people, whether they are Negro people, but this I know, due to my expressed beliefs and my ex-emplification of them, I feel that I have won their confidence. Their appreciation will be shown by the stand they will take at the polls.

NEVER HEDGED

"Politics or no politics, vote or no vote, I have never hedged on the race question. I have always said

Informed of the unhealthy hous-ing situation in Los Angeles as it pertains to the Negro people, Mr. Willkie, who will definitely question is federal aid for education a dead issue? That all depends on whether or not president next year, stat-the teachers and friends of education was quite elated over throughout our state and nation want it to port given the war effort by die, or whether they will take enough in-all over the country and terest to keep it alive. Of course the ill-the present bond drive. advised Langer Amendment to Senate Bill ing his conference, he left

FEDERAL AID FOR EDUCATION

Editor, The Journal: We might raise the

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637 gave the plan a temporary set-back. I the repercussions brought about by the result of that amendment are already being felt in Washington and if and when the bill is brought to the Senate again we do not believe that such an amendment would be made or sustained.

In our opinion we do not believe that Mr. Langer acted on his own initiative, but was merely the mouthpiece for the higher-ups in the Republican Party. Neither do we believe that he was greatly concerned over the Negroes of the South or that he wanted the funds of his own state controlled by federal authority.

In the presentation of this amendment the Republican Party has blundered and its leaders already know it. The present defeat of S. R. 637 was brought about solely because of the Langer amendment which was Republican-born and overwhelmingly supported by Republican votes. With a general election coming up next year they now see that they have created an even more impregnable wall of Democratic votes in sections where they may have hoped to gain support. They have thus shown the true Republican attitude toward the South—no wonder they regret this action.

But what can we do now? We can continue to push forward to the realization of this greatly needed aid. We can continue to ask our senators and our congressmen to get this bill back on the Senate and House floors. We can still say that if our senators and our congressmen can find over $500,000,000 with which to raise the salaries of federal employes that they should also be able to find $300,000,000 to equalize and expand the educational opportunities of underprivileged boys and girls of our country. Not only that but we can prepare ourselves to vote and in this way speak more clearly and more convincingly than in any other manner. We have an old proverb saying that the Lord helps them who help themselves—congress does the same.

W. L. POWELL.

Harrison, Ga.

CALLING THE DEMO'S HAND

Bystander

The National Baptist Convention in the closing session of its annual convention, called upon Negroes to support the Republican ticket in 1944 as a protest against the [illegible] treatment accorded them in the armed service and its policy of segregation, discrimination and other injustices.

The Bystander has never believed the church should get in politics, but there is no objection to a body expressing its views on the important matters on the day and this is certainly one.

Des Moines, Iowa

It is an undeniable fact that the present administration has done many fine things for the Negro; however, if a man has no protection from the law, is pushed aside as an inferior, and is denied some of the important advantages enjoyed by American citizens all other things fade.

Unquestionably, this administration is trying to [illegible] the southern white people in line for the election next fall. And since most of the mistreatment of Negroes in the armed service is in the south, to take action against the perpetrators would serve notice upon them that the administration did not countenance the mistreatment of any group. And if the Four Freedoms, about which President Roosevelt talks so glibly mean anything, if he is sincere about it, the simple protection guaranteed by our constiution should be accorded every citizen.

The Bystander has no argument with any man about his politcis, but we say now that unless the administration does something about this matter now, any Negro who votes to return it to power, is fattening the snake which is sucking his life blood.

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

EDGAR BROWN CHARGES ADMINISTRATION HAS GIVEN 'LIP SERVICE'

Washington—Charging that the Roosevelt Administration has merely rendered "lip service" to meet the demands of 13,00,000 colored people in the nation, Edgar B. Brown, national director of the National Negro Council, called upon Negroes throughout the country to register their protest by voting Republican in the next election.

In a statement issued here today, Mr. Brown declared that in spite of repeated protests from the colored press, church and liberal organizations, including the March on Washington Movement, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the National Negro Council, the Administration insists upon maintaining its "Jim Crow policies in the military services and on the home front."

ONE BIG MAN

BY JOSEPH D. BIBB

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Willkie Not Afraid to Speak for Justice and Equality for All People

WENDELL L. WILLKIE has captured my fancy. He has captivated my imagination and won my respect. To me he towers as "some tall clift that midway leaves the storm." Amidst the clamor for a "fourth term" and the surging forth of other candidates, the stalwart figure of Willkie rises as a beacon of hope. No prominent man in American politics has spoken out so bravely and uncompromisingly as this one big man. In the "One World of Today" Wendell Willkie is preeminently first in courage, conviction and capacity. These conclusions are not reached in hap-hazard enthusiasm but after almost five years of cold and dispassionate appraisal.



Mr. Bibb

I had never seen nor heard of Willkie until he was flashed on the screen in the little theatre of a country village in Michigan during the summer of Nineteen Thirty Nine. His magnetic personality, his unflinching stare and simple, direct words heavily laden with truth, perception and understanding, arrested my mind. I thought of this unvarnished Hoosier lawyer, who had made his way to Wall Street and I tried to figure out his game.

GROWN IN STATURE

Many time during the ensuing months, I read after Willkie and saw him on the screen. I still could not figure him. It was difficult for me to conceive how he could get the Republican nomination in Philadelphia in Nineteen Forty. But he did and none of the shrewd, political analysts have been able to cogently disclose, since then, just how he did it. Influential and artful publishers, whose displeasure he has since incurred, have lambasted and reviled "the barefoot boy from Indiana," but none of them has been able to reveal any sinister motive, or sordid scheme behind his endeavors. With me Willkie has grown in stature since then.

I FIRST saw him in flesh four summers ago at Elwood, Indiana, when he accepted the nomination. I was just as close to him as Senator Taft and Congressman Martin. I studied him and hung on to his every word. I was amazed at his unexpected refusal to say that he would keep his country out of the coming war. An astute politician sitting by me, jumped up after he had finished and cried out, "That speech defeats him and he had the election in his hand."

GAVE PROMISE TO COLORED AMERICANS

I heard him many times after that during the hectic campaign. I heard him indulge in flippancies of speech and "mere bits of campaign oratory." But I never heard him hedge, nor deviate from the first impression of rugged honesty. He stood out in the campaign as "one big man," who caught the fancy and captivated the imagination of more than twenty million American voters. He stood up in defeat and disappointment and emerged a hero as the days flew by.

HE FIRST addressed himself to the issue of the colored Americans at the American Giants ball park in Chicago, again I was close to him and heard him confound the white reporters when he bellowed out, "If I am elected I will appoint a Negro in my cabinet." That speech dumbfounded even the colored people. Willkie rang so sincere that I could not believe it was true, and until this day the 15,000 who thronged there have never forgotten his unflinching, uncompromising words. He spoke as no candidate had ever spoken in the history of American politics, and judging from his actions and utterances four years later. I am constrained to believe that he meant just what he said.

STANDS OUT AS ONE BIG MAN

I listened in when Willkie praised Joe Louis at Madison Square Garden. I heard him eulogize Marian Anderson, I saw the picture of Mrs. Willkie and him, sitting in the box with Champion Joe. I know that he accepted the invitation to speak at the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People last summer and I wrote about his forthright attitudes for a great white newspaper. I heard his address to the nation a few days ago and he filled me with hope and courage. He has been undaunted in condemning riots, injustice and discriminations and he has not been timid in expressing his resentments against these injustices to the American people.

HE HAS split no verbal hairs, nor indulged in any double talk. He has challenged the rebel and backward South and held a bold brief for the minority people of the entire world. His book "One World" reveals the heart and mind of "One Big Mind," and today Willkie stands in the political theatre, as the one American best disposed to practice as well as preach the tenets of Democracy and Fraternity.

FIND NO FAULT WITH THIS MAN

The writer does not know what destiny holds for Mr. Willkie, but he knows that he has made the world better for having lived in it, and that he has been successful in elevating the human race an infinitesmal fraction, and that is more than most of his contemporaries have done. He looms as "One Big Man" in my eyesight and to the last man, all of my race with whom I have conversed, unhesitatingly avow, "We Find No Fault With This Man."

GOP Leaders Ask Equality Of Opportunity

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

MACKINAC ISLAND, Mich., Sept. 9 — The Republican party launched its 1944 national campaign this week. The platform nucleus was contained in two statements of policy—on international domestic issues—by a 50-member Republican Post-War Policy Council.

Included in the platform was a specific recommendation for "Equality of Opportunity."

It was agreed in political circles that this recommendation is the party's position in general on the racial issue in this country.

The statement on "Equality of Opportunity" reads: "The Republican Party insists upon equality of opportunity for all Americans, regardless of race, color or creed, in the economic, educational, political and military life of the nation."

Statements were also [illegible] on labor, war veterans, food, and the New Deal.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Willkie Speaks Out Down South

By DORIS MONTGOMERY

DALLAS, Tex.—(ANP)—"I believe in equal rights for all peoples regardless of race, creed or color. That means the South as well as other sections of the world," Wendell Willkie said in a press interview at Baker Hotel, Thursday.

In one Texas city a reception for Mr. Willkie had been planned at a hotel which barred colored people.

"If everybody can't come," Mr. Willkie said, "I won't be there either," and the meeting was moved to a public auditorium.

"I don't believe in intolerance," he told a reporter. "I believe in you having the same rights, opportunities and privileges as I or any other American citizen has in the world.

"I think colored people are making improvement but not enough improvement until there are definite results obtained."

52d-1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

GOP Will Welcome Anti-F. D. Democrats

Alliance with Southerners Seen as Cause for Desertion of Colored Voters

JAN 2 1943

By ANP

WASHINGTON

Harrison E. Spangler, newly elected chairman of the Republican National Committee, told the Associated Negro Press on Thursday that he looked for a return to power of the G.O.P. and that the recent elections indicated a promising outlook.

Mr. Spangler was queried on a statement attributed to him by the daily press. It had been said that he was "interested" in a recent speech by Governor Dixon of Alabama, who maintained the New Deal was "dynamiting" the social order of the South.

Dixon was aiming particularly at the activities of certain agencies which were forcing white Southerners to give colored people consideration in jobs they had never before received.

"All Democrats Welcome"

"We will welcome Democrats from wherever they may come," Spangler said. "We are not concerned with race, creed or color. I am from a State where we don't have a large number of colored people, but those we do have are very fine people and we get along with them 100 per cent.

"All of us are American citizens, and the rights and privileges of American citizens extend to all of us. There is no distinction under the laws and constitutions and its amendments. All of us are in the same category."

Calls Gov't People's Servant

Mr. Spangler, a native of Cedar Rapids, Ia., said that the chief difference between the New Deal and the Republican party is that the New Deal believes in making the government the master whereas the Republicans feel that the government is the servant of the people and is not to be concentrated in any one person.

He further expressed his admiration for the continued growth and success of the colored race in America and said that it would continue to progress in proportion to the spreading of education.

"Then," he said, "the colored man will take his rightful place in the American life."

Alliance May Be Dangerous

In his first press conference on Wednesday, it had been hinted that there was in the offing a definite alliance between Southern Democrats opposed to the New Deal. JAN 2 - 1943

Such an alliance, observers say, would prove disastrous to any hopes the Republicans might have for regaining power in the Presidential election, for the small gains in the South would be more than offset again of the colored vote in the pivotal States.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Force Commander With Color Of Voters, He Says

JAN 3 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (ANP) —Harrison E. Spangler, newly elected chairman of the Republican National party told the Associated Negro press last Thursday that he looked for a return to power of the G. O. P. and that the recent elections indicated a promising outlook.

Discussing the position of the Negro in the party, Mr. Spangler was quizzed concerning a statement attributed to him by the daily press. It had been said that he was "interested" in a recent speech by Governor Dixon of Alabama who claimed the New Deal was 'dynamiting' the social order of the south. Dixon was aiming particularly at the activities of certain agencies of the government which were forcing white southerners to give Negroes of that section consideration in jobs they had never before received.

"We will welcome Democrats from wherever they may come," Spangler said. "We are not concerned with race, creed or color. I am from a state where we don't have a large number of Negroes, but those we do have are very fine people and we get along with them 100 per cent.

"All of us are American citizens and the rights and privileges of American citizens extend to all of us. There is no distinction under the laws and constitutions and its amendments. All of us are in the same category."

Mr. Spangler, a native of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, felt there would be a change in the government in the next elections. The chief difference between the New Deal and the Republican party, he said, was that the New Deal believed in making the government the master whereas the Republicans felt that the government was the servant of the people and not to be concentrated in any one person.

He further expressed his admiration for the continued growth and success of the Negro race in America and said that the Negro would continue to progress in proportion to the spreading of education among the people.

Then the Negro, he said, would take his rightful place in the American life.

In his first press conference on Wednesday, it had been hinted that there was in the offing a definite alliance between southern Democrats opposed to the New Deal. Such an alliance would prove disastrous to any hopes the Republicans might have for regaining power in the next presidential election, for the small gains in the south would be more than offset by the desertion again of the Negro vote in the pivotal states.

This, plus the fact that no matter what alliances were made with the southern states, the Republicans would not carry sufficient of them to make any difference in their previous alliance.

Columbia, S. C., Record

Urges Negroes Vote For G.O.P.

September 2, 1943

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2—(AP)—Edgar G. Brown, national director of the National Negro Council, called upon Negroes today to vote for Republicans in the next election in protest against what he termed the administration's "Jim Crow policies in the military services and on the home front."

REPUBLICAN

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

The Republican Party And The Negro

"THE Republican Party is the ship, all else is the sea."

"The Republican party is the party of Abraham Lincoln, the party which made you free."

Under the force of these slogans practically all Negroes in the United States voted the Republican ticket from the beginning of their voting career in 1868 until about 1920. The Republican party in the South was the party of the black man; the Democratic party in this region was the party of the white man.



Dr. Jackson

Since party allegiance was closely associated with race, Negroes and whites dared not desert the party of their race. The penalty for party desertion was social ostracism. In Lexington, Kentucky, the town of my boyhood days, there was a Negro school principal by the name of Russell who voted the Democratic ticket. Because of such action this man was branded a traitor, and he was known to the colored people as "Russell rat, the Democrat." Needless to say Russell had but few friends among the Negroes.

Slogans represent form of propaganda and therefore tell only half the truth and sometimes no truth at all. For a generation the Republican party spellbinders declaimed that through the 13th amendment the Republican or Union party gave the Negroes their freedom, that through the 14th amendment this party gave them equality before the law, and by the 15th amendment this same party gave them the right to vote and to hold office.

LEFT HIGH AND DRY

Under the weight of these amendments and a number of state and Congressional statutes the Negroes apparently were never to bear the burden of racial discrimination. Naturally the freedmen would vote the Republican ticket for some time to come. Little did they realize that within thirty years this party would pull up stakes in the South and leave them high and dry.

Because party allegiance was based on race every election in the South involved some form of racial friction. The Democratic whites intimidated the Republican blacks, drove them from the polls, drove them from their communities, beat them, and shot them. For ten years such lawless bands as the Ku Klux Klan, the White Kamelia, the Pale Faces, and Rifle Clubs waged relentless war on the Negroes to prevent them from voting and to stifle their political ambitions.

For a time the Northern Republican party put their troops into action to prevent such lawlessness, or they offered some more laws, but by 1877 they were ready to surrender to the white South by turning the Negro over to them. By 1900 very few Negroes were voting because in state and local affairs there was no Republican ticket for which they might vote.

Memphis, Tenn. Commercial Appeal
August 8, 1943

ADVICE TO WILLKIE

Off On Wrong Foot About Negroes, Says Writer

To The Commercial Appeal:

I sent the following letter today to Wendell L. Willkie:

"I have usually voted for Democratic nominees but on occasion have voted Republican. I voted for you in the last presidential campaign because I thought we needed you, but to my mind all this political propaganda about social equality for the colored race and the white is just pure unadulterated rot, for there is not even social equality among the white race itself or among the colored race, and the place each individual of either race occupies in the social and other standards of society depends on the ability of the individual to fit himself or herself for the duties entailed thereby.

"I am sure that no one who has ever lived in the South closely associated with the negro race does not recognize their worth and accord them unstinted credit for the part they have played in the development of this part of the country, especially in agricultural and other rural pursuits, and we feel that in the long run this section of the United States offers him his best chance to live in peace, contentment and happiness, because here, as nowhere else, he is among people whom he understands and who understand him; if, however he cannot be satisfied with the opportunity afforded him here to work out his destiny by his own efforts as an individual, but feels that because his color is black he must be

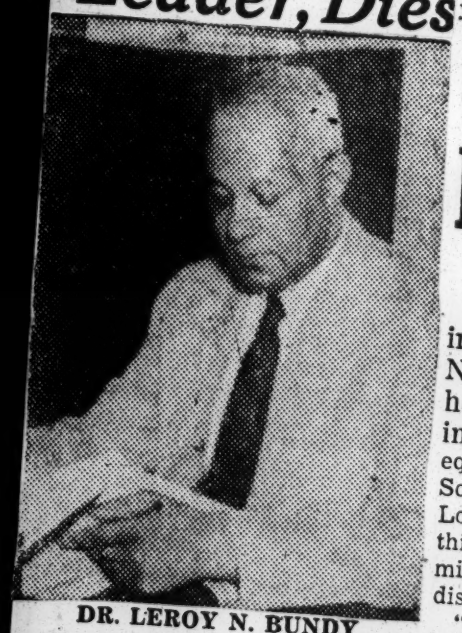
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

"There must be some of us who are content to do manual labor some of us to do clerical, some of us to do so-called mental work, and to this latter class I say that if our mental training has been of no more value to us than to tempt us to try to make the man who is in a different line of endeavor dissatisfied with his position, our brain has been injured irrevocably in the process of assimilating our small quota of information and knowledge."

W. J. BRITTON.

Memphis.

Dr. Bundy, Ohio GOP Leader, Dies



DR. LEROY N. BUNDY

CLEVELAND. — Dr. Leroy N. Bundy, for many years a powerful figure in Republican politics, died Saturday morning at his home, following a severe heart attack.

Dr. Bundy had the reputation of being one of the most astute politicians in the Middle West until his health began to fail him several years ago. A native of Hamilton, Ohio, Dr. Bundy had successfully crowded three careers into his life —dentistry, law and politics.

At the age of 17 he was graduated from Western Reserve university dental school, the youngest member in his class. In 1936 he was the oldest member of his class to receive his degree from the law school of the same university.

Up until death claimed him he had practiced law and maintained an office at his home.

Dr. Bundy went to Europe to study dentistry after graduation here and later served for a time in Provident Hospital in Chicago. Later he practiced in St. Louis and East St. Louis. He served a term as county commissioner in East St. Louis before coming to Cleveland. He joined the party led by the late Maurice Maschke and son was a leader in Republican politics. In 1934 Dr. Bundy was chairman of the utilities committee of the City Council.

In 1937, while running for re-election to the council Dr. Bundy contracted pneumonia and since then has never been well. He was defeated in the election. At the time of his death he was not active in the political life of the city.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Vella Bundy; his mother, Mrs. Eliza Bundy; a sister, Mrs. Lula Talbot, and a brother, Clifford Bundy, a supervisor in the City Street Department for several years.

Edgar Brown Vote Claims Ridiculed By CIO Leader

NEW YORK. — A stinging rebuke was handed Edgar G. Brown, head of the National Negro Council, this week by Negro labor leaders for his claim that he could deliver the nation's 13,000,000 Negroes to the Republican party in 1944.

Brown, who is a support of Gov. Tom Dewey of New York for president, was described as "a publicity seeker with a paper organization" by George L. C. Weaver, head of the CIO's anti-discrimination committee.

"Brown could get all his voters into a small kitchenette," said Weaver.

"Nobody ever thought him important enough to bother with until a year ago when he endorsed the Dies committee. Since then he has played up to every reactionary group in the country that would give him a hearing.

"He leads one paper organization and a union with about 120 dues-paying members," Weaver declared.

Gadsden Ala. Times
September 3, 1943

La. Governor Blasts New Deal For 'Social Equality'

CLEVELAND, Miss.—"It is increasingly clear that the New Deal high command hopes to use the war as an instrument for forcing social equality of the Negroes upon the South," Governor Sam Jones of Louisiana stated here in a speech this week blasting the national administration and charging "rank discrimination" against the South.

"Southerners observe dignitaries high in the New Deal firmament as they travel about our region, blithly sowing riot and race dissention amongst us for generations to come, and they are disturbed and alarmed," he said.

Jones advised that if the South is left alone and "if we who have lived together with the Negroes for two centuries are given the privilege, we can reach a solution of this problem that will be beneficial to both races."

Only two weeks ago, the governor appeared upon a program at Southern university predominantly expressive of his desire to heal any breach that might have come between him and the Negro population of Louisiana through playing up of his article in a national magazine several weeks ago relating upon the race and southern problem.

In his loudly applauded speech here, the Pelican state governor expressed the probability that "white southern boys in the armed services, who perhaps have an understanding of and affection for the Negro race not shared by their comrads from other sections, do not improve in morale when they are told that one of the things they are fighting for is social equality of the Negro. They would renounce any such war aim, rightly or wrongly."

The governor reemphasized his former advocacy of an all-southern political party but vaguely suggested an inclusion of the Southern Negro as a part of this political rebellion from national political tie-up.

The Louisiana governor has given approval of a plan presented by Negroes of the state of Louisiana that the racial differences and misunderstanding within that state can be ironed out through proper coordination of Negroes and white within the state and the South. Such conference to initiate a working agreement is being planned for the near future.

Negroes Urged To Vote Against Administration

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3.—(AP)—Edgar G. Brown, national director of the National Negro Council, called upon Negroes Thursday to vote for Republicans in the next election in protest against what he termed the administration's "Jim Crow policies in the military services and on the home front."

"By the reputation of e democratic office seeker in York, New Jersey, Kentucky Philadelphia in the special e tions this Fall, and of the tional administration next ye he said in a statement, "the gro will definitely advance the compromising fight to end and for all the continued disfi chisement, segregation and equal treatment of the col race."

Noted Negro Orator Arrives To Stump State for G.O.P.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Col. Roscoe Conkling Simmons, noted orator regarded as one of the foremost living Negroes, arrived here yesterday to stump the state in behalf of the Republican ticket in the November election, it was announced at Republican headquarters.

A nephew of Booker T. Washington, Simmons will start a series of speeches at Owensboro today. Tomorrow he will speak at Henderson, Wednesday at Paducah, Thursday at Hopkinsville, Friday at Madisonville and Saturday at Bowling Green. All the speeches are scheduled for 8 p.m.

Simmons, who was reared on the farm of Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner near Munfordville, according to the Republican statement, was educated in Louisville and at the University of Chicago. National attention focused on him when he seconded the nomination of President Hoover in 1932.

GOP Standard Bearer Makes Bid For Negro Vote In '44

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan

By J. ROBERT SMITH

Los Angeles, (ANP)—"If I am elected President of the United States, I am devoted to make this country a better place for the Negro to live in," was the pronouncement of Wendell L. Willkie, 1940 Republican presidential nominee at a city-wide press conference at the Biltmore hotel last week.

Here in the city to address a series of war bond meetings, the author of "One World" when asked to be more specific told reporters, "The Negro people are Americans, as such they are entitled to all the rights and privileges enjoyed by any other group in this country.

"Soon after the Detroit riots I went on record over the air as advocating better housing facilities, equal educational opportunities, more and better-type jobs in general freedom to live and enjoy the blessings of this great country."

Wide Race Support

While Mr. Willkie was indefinite regarding whether he would be the Negro's favorite candidate in the coming presidential elections, he assured his press conference that he has made many friends in the group since 1940.

"I cannot go on record as saying that I will be the favorite of the Negro people, but this I know,

"Politics or no politics, vote or no vote, I have never hedged on the race question. I have always said the things I believe in. I have always, and will always fight for the principles that I believe are just and right regardless of race, color or creed."

Talks On Housing

Informed of the unhealthy housing situation in Los Angeles that pertains to the Negro people, when queried about a possible solution, Mr. Willkie declared, "It would seem that such a condition calls for continued fight on the part of civic and other interested groups.

Quite often when the city, state and federal governments ig-

52d-1943

Willkie to Make America 'A Better Place' If Elected

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa



WENDELL WILLKIE

By J. ROBERT SMITH

Los Angeles (ANP)—"If I amand federal governments ignore a sit-elected president of the United Statesuation, it may be due to the fact that I am devoted to make this country athe injured persons do not fight hard better place for the Negro people toand seriously enough. If they are, live in," das the pronouncement ofthen they must not give up the ship." Wendell L. Willkie, 1940 Republican Mr. Willkie who will definitely presidential nominee at his city-widethrow his hat in the ring as a candi-press conference at the Biltmore ho-date for president next year, stated tel Wednesday.

Here in the city to address a se-support given the war effort by Ne-ries of third war bonds meetings, thegroes all over the country and par-author of "One World," when askedticularly the present bond drive. to be more specific told reporters: Following his conference, he left "The Nefro people are Americans, asfor Sacramento to confer with Gov. such they are entitled to all the rights Earl Warren. and privileges enjoyed by any other group in this country."

Continuing his clarification, Mr. Willkie declared: "Soon after the Detroit riots I went on record over the air as advocating better housing facilities, equal educational opportunities, more and better type jobs and in general freedom to live and enjoy the blessings of this great country."

While Mr. Willkie was indefinite regarding whether he would be the Negroe's favorite candidate in the coming presidential election, he however assured his press conference that he has made many more friends in the group since 1940.

"I cannot go on record as saying that I will be the favorite of the Negro people, but this I know, due to my expressed beliefs, an my exemplification of them, I feel that I have won their confidence. Their appreciation will be shown by the stand they will take at the polls.

"Politics or no politics, vote or no vote, I have never hedged on the race question. I have always said the things I believe in. I have always, and will always fight for the principles that I believe are just and right regardless of race, color or creed."

Unhealthy

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REPUBLICAN
Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

GOP Ignores 'Negro Issue'

The Republican Party was born in Michigan in 1854. The men who founded it banded together primarily because of their opposition to slavery. In 1860 this new, powerful party nominated Lincoln for the Presidency, thereby casting the die that resulted in the War of the Rebellion, the liberation of the slaves and the real establishment of the greatest country on earth.

Last week a group of high Republicans, including governors, Senators and other party officials called the Republican Post-War Policy Committee, returned to the state of their party's birth to hold a conference treating with the problems of the world, but particularly the role the American nation will play in it. This group of Republicans had a wonderful opportunity to re-state its original principles concerning all Americans as well as all peoples in the world.

In face of the seriousness of the race question in the U. S. today, they had an opportunity to express themselves about it, and to appoint a subcommittee to go out, investigate the question and report back to the entire committee. Born out of the race question, the party again had a chance to re-state its original democratic precepts in reference to it.

Unfortunately, the GOP Post-War Policy Committee meeting was a tragic flop. It flopped in reference to the Negro and all other burning questions of today. What makes the dismal failure of the GOP confab doubly tragic is the fact that the present administration is today fraught with sins of all kinds where the instituting of true democracy is concerned. A stiff, intelligent opposition from a wide awake, courageous, honest Republican Party would force the present administration to do many things that the American people are demanding but can't get because Mr. Roosevelt and his advisers persistently bury their heads in the Washington soil and ignore them.

However, we recall that in 1939, the Republicans hired Dr. Ralph Bunche of Howard University to find out what the Negroes really wanted and report its findings to them. Well, Dr. Bunche did a splendid job, and, of course, gave his report to his employers. Unfortunately, they read it (might have), put it in a pigeon-hole and forgot it. Nothing was done.

This time, however, it was to be expected that the Republicans would have said or done something about the gravest domestic problem of them all—the race problem. But they didn't. Because of their failure, the entire nation suffers.

Negroes Upset Over GOP's Mackinac Meet

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

By JULIUS J. ADAMS

WASHINGTON—Reaction to the Mackinac Island meeting of the Republican Party Post-War Council here among Negroes is that their leadership slept another bet when it failed to put in an appearance at the Michigan conference where the bigwigs of the G. O. P. were writing the outline of resolutions on foreign and domestic policy to be submitted to the National Convention next year.

It was pointed out that the traditional practice of Negro leaders of remaining on the fringe of things, or failing to get in on the policy-making arrangements of matters vitally affecting their lives and welfare was strikingly in evidence by their absence from Mackinac.

Shouldn't Be Ignored

It is important that Negroes should participate in the formulation of policies and programs of the Party," it was observed. "The time has come when the interest of the 15,000,000 citizens in this country of African descent should be given primary consideration in national planning and not treated as a secondary matter after the basic structure of policy has been established."

While only a limited number of persons were invited to the meeting, with some of the most influential G.O.P. figures being ignored, these individuals saw to it that their positions and views were presented.

Willkie Ignored, Too

Wendell L. Willkie was not present, but Gov. Raymond Baldwin of Connecticut and others fought his battle. Attorney Deneen Watson, young Chicago lawyer, who heads the aggressive organization within G.O.P. ranks which aims to destroy the isolationist policy of the party, was not there, but he sent a strong message demanding that the conference take a stand for active American participation in program for planning of "One world peace through international cooperation.

Only Representative

The only representation the Negro had there, either in person or in communication was that provided by a lone minister, Edmund Pace, head waiter at the hotel, who offered prayer at the opening of one of the meetings.

There is also some talk here about the position Negroes should take with respect to American relations with Great Britain in the post-war period as suggested by Prime Minister Churchill.

For a long time there has been under discussion a plan for the Union of the United States and Great Britain, with a common citizenship in the new Union. Most of this Union talk up to now has been outside of official circles, but with the two latest moves . . . the combined Chiefs which, it is believed, will continue after the War, and the establishment of the Mediterranean Commission . . . it is believed the moving closer to realization. That the idea of the continuance of the combined Chiefs of Staff "as guardians of the peace" has now accord is moving definite Anglo-American policy was strongly hinted in Mr. Churchill's Harvard speech last Monday and later indorsed by high authorities here the very next day. Mr. Churchill said: "This immensely powerful machinery must be kept working and in running order after probably for a good many years."

No Indications

There is no indication from any source that Negroes, whose position may not be under consideration in the global thinking and of "One World" architects, are taking any steps to find out how they will stand under the new program of close collaboration.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Republican Overtures

The sharp challenge hurled at the Republican Party's recent pronouncement with references to its position toward American Negroes in the forthcoming elections by Walter White, Executive Sec'y. of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, will have the approval of all thoughtful American Negroes, familiar with the record of performance by Republicans in the nation's capital.

DEC 28 1943

"The Republican party will again undertake its historic task of working for the betterment of Negroes" after the defeat of the New Deal in 1944, said Harrison E. Spangler, Chairman of the Republican National Committee. To which Mr. White said: "the present record of Republicans in Congress has caused 'thoughtful Negroes of the United States to entertain very real doubts' of such action." Hoover's Administration particularly, as well as the administrations of Harding and Coolidge, convinced Negroes that the GOP was not "working for the betterment of the Negro people."

DEC 28 1943

With commendable accuracy and clarity, Mr. White's statement cited the continued alliance in the present and recent congresses of northern Republicans and southern Democrats, which has "done and is doing infinite harm to the Negro." The Soldier-vote bill, the filibuster against both the anti-lynching and anti-Poll Tax bills, in themselves reflect the thinking of the Republicans toward Negro Americans.

Moreover, granting that Negro Americans were inclined to forget the more recent record of the Republicans at Washington, there is enough in their past to evoke suspicion and doubt as to its future position.

DEC 28 1943

The Republican Party has rested on its laurels and boast of having freed the slaves. It has, until recent years, dispensed patronage among a precious few Negroes principally, Republican Committeemen to National Conventions.

And finally, it should be made clear to all concerned that mere party labels no longer appeal to the imagination of Negro voters. In his "New World A-Coming", Rio Ottley very cogently states the position of the present-day Negro voters. He says: "Today, the social and economic conditions of the race is the weather-vane of the Negro vote. Thus, the Negro vote goes to the highest bidder in terms of concrete social and economic offers. The Negro has learned the lesson of racial solidarity, and is using it to go places. This fundamental shift in sentiment is the key to the Negro's political development and strength, and reveals a brand new era in Negro politics." By thus using his bargaining strength today Negroes send representatives to twelve state legislatures in the North. Harlem has six Negro judges serving DEC 28 1943 courts of New York City and three Negro commissioners. In seventeen northernstates the Negro voters control 281 electoral votes of a possible 531. In short, a solid vote may conceivably have tremendous influence upon the fretful future of American politics. That the Negro is not tied to any political party was clearly demonstrated in the last three national elections.

'Political Liabilities Anyway'

If Missouri goes Republican in 1944, it will be due to the general trend, and not to any support which the present administration has earned from Negroes. So far as we are concerned, this state is still under the rule of Lloyd C. Stark, Democrat. Gov. Donnell has either deliberately chosen to follow the policy of his predecessor, who had the most anti-Negro administration over the course of many years under both parties, or he is indifferent to his duty to us.

OCT 29 1943

Call

The John D. Taylor act, the Stark answer to the U. S. Supreme court's order, is Missouri's rule for us still. That legislation in the same breath admits it is the state's duty to make us equal before the law, and provides the escape from that duty. It was a shameful day in this state's history when its attorneys in defending its neglect of us, were driven to a plain out-and-out appeal to the jury's race prejudice, so intent were they on making Negro citizens go to court to get services which it voluntarily provides others.

Gov. Forrest Donnell is not innocent of the state's failure to give Negro Missourians equal service. He may think his course suits the majority, but he cannot think that he is carrying out the law. Nor looking at what happened in St. Louis right under his eyes, can he think that Negroes like disservice. It was this same refusal to deal fairly with them in St. Louis that sent them pell mell over into the opposite party, thereby handing control of the chief city and of the state to the Democrats.

Kansas City, Mo

St. Louis Republicans must be a pretty dumb lot. They must be thinking still in terms of the days when a big party campaign fund and a willingness to spend it, "got out the vote." That era is past. One thing the new deal has done, it has made the individual feel that he amounts to something, a feeling which he can give expression to now when 100 per cent employment makes him above the necessity of selling his vote for money or relief.

It is with reluctance that we turn thumbs down on the present state administration. Its predecessor was so bad, that we expected this one to be good by comparison. It had a great chance. Where the millions in federal funds sent in for special agriculture had been allotted almost exclusively to whites, through his control over Missouri University, Gov. Donnell could have seen that Negroes were given 7 per cent, their just proportion. For a hundred years we played a part in this state's farm production. When better methods supplanted the old, we lost out because the farm agents hired by counties do not service us. Federal aid was our hope. Gov. Donnell lets us be deprived of it.

The inequality of the schooling provided for Negroes in most school districts is not directly the state's fault. But as the governor of all the people, Gov. Donnell should and could have put the state to work on Negro education. Unless in the year remaining, he performs a miracle of accomplishment, he will go out of office with us right where John D. Taylor planned that we should be and where Stark left us. That Missouri goes on promising—not paying—out-state tuition to Negroes in lieu of the schooling within the state which the U. S. Supreme court said was its only lawful course, condemns this Republican administration as no friend.

For some time we have lacked the words to say all we think. Wendell Willkie comes to our rescue. Speaking to the St. Louis leaders of whom Gov. Donnell is one, he said he did not "give a damn' whether they supported him or not, and concluded with this knockout punch: 'You are a set of political liabilities anyway." To that we add a loud and long "Amen!"

SOCIALISTS TRYING WEAN NEGROES AWAY

Conway, S. C., Horry Herald

Administration Having a Hard Time Over Friction Among Races

November 18, 1943—

(By H. E. C. Bryant)

Washington, D. C.—Negro leaders are still demanding a show down on their request for colored street car and bus handlers in Washington. This week it was announced that the Capital Transit Company which controls the cars and buses of the city has agreed to employ negroes as operators. In a letter to the Fair Employment Practice Committee, the committee on jobs for Negroes and Public Utilities said the company is ready to accede to its demands. But the trouble is not with the transit company but its American Federation of Labor employes who have thus far refused to train negroes for the positions of motorman, conductors, or bus drivers; the hitch is there, not in the office of the company. Chairman Francis J. Haas, of the FEPC, has assured the negro committee that every step possible is being taken to effect the new employment policy.

The administration is having a hard time keeping down friction between colored and white employes. Unions have admitted negroes to membership but negroes claim they are not being treated fairly. Instead of easing, the friction increases.

Three political parties—the Democratic, Republican and Socialist—want the negro vote but do not know how to get and hold it. Socialists are making a vigorous campaign to convince the negroes that neither the Democratic nor the Republican party is sincere in its promise of fairness. Discriminations, it asserts, are notorious in government agencies here, private industry and labor unions.

From coast to coast the federal government is battling with the race problem. One of the real trials of the Office of War Information comes from complaints from negro workers.

Despite the fact that negroes are found in almost every office in the War Production Board, the Office of Price Administration and other war agencies, the Socialist organization here charges serious discrimination by the federal government. It says that bureaucrats practice subtle forms of discrimination and many units that do hire negroes segregate them from white workers.

"The highly skilled craftsmen jobs in the so-called government factory agencies are white monopolies, Socialists alleges . "If you are a negro you can't be a plate printer at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. You may pass the civil service examination for apprentices but you will not be appointed; you can't be a pressman at the government Printing Office; you can't be a mechanic at the navy yard in smelting or brass or tin or gun assembly or molding or blacksmithing or welding or bombsight work.

"If you are a white woman and are hired by the navy yard, you may be doing gun wiping, electrical work ,or gun assembly or inspecting or checking. If you are black, you won't do anything but pack and stamp cartridges which is dirty work at low pay."

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

52e-1943

Hundreds Of Amendments Prepared For Poll Tax Bill

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Will Be Hurled At It By Southern Senators To Make Its Passage Impossible

NOV 15 1943

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—(AP)—Jerking back the curtains for a quick preview of a filibuster in the making, two Southern Senators announced tonight they are preparing "several hundred amendments" to the anti-poll tax bill and estimated that weeks will be required for their consideration.

The two, Senator Eastland (D), Mississippi, and Senator McClellan (D), Arkansas, said they would join "a large number of other senators from every section of the country" in combatting the House-approved bill which would eliminate payment of a poll tax as a prerequisite for voting in elections for Federal officials.

They charged the bill is sponsored by the Communist Party and "also the radical hybrid American Labor Party in the Democratic organization." It was approved Friday, 12 to 6, by the Senate judiciary committee and, beginning tomorrow, is subject to being called up by any member of the Senate.

O'Mahoney Plan

With filibusters threatened openly in half a dozen quarters, efforts are under way to avoid weeks of random talk in the midst of war. Senator O'Mahoney (D), Wyoming, believes he has the solution with his resolution calling for an anti-poll tax constitutional amendment.

He pointed out that only eight States—Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Texas, Arkansas, South Carolina and Virginia—make payment of a poll tax a voting qualification, and said it was likely that the amendment would be ratified by most of the other 40 States.

The judiciary committee deadlocked 9 to 9 on the O'Mahoney resolution Friday but agreed to consider it tomorrow. If it were called up and passed ahead of the House poll tax repealer, the latter probably would remain quiescent on the calendar.

Advocates of the bill declare no one should have to pay in order to vote. Opponents say the bill is an attempt of the Federal Government to take over the States' rights to specify the qualification of their voters.

Bankhead Bill Up

Waiting for a break in the controversy, the Senate tomorrow tackles the Bankhead bill which would direct the Treasury to spend $25,000,000 to $30,000,000 for paid government war bonds inforce the State with the unitary papers. Bankhead said he was confident of its approval if most of the senators are present, and did not appear concerned over an amendment offered by Senator Ball (R), Minnesota, to cut the authorization in half and confined the advertising to newspapers published in communities under 10,000 population.

Bankhead took the view that the government advertising program would be an economy, not an expense, because it would bring about more war bond sales.

Opposition to the measure hinges on the theory that the newspaper would be paid a near-subsidy which could endanger the freedom of the press.

A House test is coming Thursday or Friday on the sharp conflict over whether the administration should continue food subsidies to keep retail prices down. A bill up for consideration then contains a House banking committee ban on such payments.

The new tax bill, to add $2,142,900,000 in new revenue, is due to hit the House floor Nov. 22. There have been signs of objections among House members to committee recommendations for increases in liquor and admissions taxes and for postal rate boosts.

Republican members of the ways and means committee are planning a supplemental report on the bill, raising again the charge of waste in Federal expenditures.

Urge Speed in Anti-Poll Tax Bill Passage

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Moving to intensify the campaign to secure immediate passage of HR7 when Congress reconvenes in September, the National Negro Congress yesterday called upon all local councils and affiliates to give full support to the National Anti-Poll Tax Week, October 17 to 23, and simultaneously urged all New York State voters to put Senators Wagner and Meade on the record for quick passage of the measure.

The directives to New York State voters were contained in a leaflet issued by the New York State Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax urging all citizens to "Take Pen in Hand Today, command Your Senators to vote for passage of HR7. . . . The march to victory against the poll tax will begin when the Senators know the desires of the citizens who elect them. . . . Poll tax repeal is a priority for victory, because it will release ten million votes for democracy and victory in the war. . . .TAKE THIS STEP FOR VICTORY, TODAY," the leaflet urges.

New York State voters were asked to spear-head the national campaign to pass HR7 in the Senate by writing New York Senators Wagner and Meade; and Senators Van Nuys and McFarland, Chairman of Judiciary Committee, and Chairman, Sub-Committee on HR7, respectively, to:

1. Vote for passage of HRS
2 Vote for cloture
3 Vote against all amendments
4 Resist all efforts to delay passage of the Bill.

Meanwhile, the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax issued from Washington, D. C., a nationwide call to all organizations and individuals to "finish off the poll tax." Individuals were urged to go see their senators while they are home from Congress, and to commit them to "take final action against the price tag on the vote."

DR. JACKSON TELLS NEGROES TO PAY TAX

Newport News
November

Importance Of Vote Stressed To End Discrimination

Dr. Luther P. Jackson of Virginia State college for Negroes at Petersburg spoke yesterday at a citywide rally of Negro citizens outlining four basic reasons why Negroes should pay the poll tax, register, and vote in all city, state and national elections. More than 300 people attended the meeting in the Trinity Baptist church.

His reasons were stated as follows:

1. "The legislators who put the tax on the Virginia statutes in 1902 were quite certain that Negroes and poor white people would not pay the tax.

2. "It is a double duty tax. It is a requirement for voting and the proceeds are applied to teachers' salaries and for the improvement of school facilities.

3. "Paying the poll tax makes it possible to abolish it.

4. "It enables Negroes to right wrongs and arrest racial discrimination through action at the ballot box.

Dr. Jackson pointed out that latest statistics show 3,000 Negroes in this city have paid the poll tax, but only 1,000 paid in 1940, 1941 and 1942; the other 2,000 paid for one and two years.

Samuel A. Haynes, Peninsula editor of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, presided and reviewed civic activities of the Citizens Committee of Action and the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people under whose joint sponsorship the meeting was held.

The chairman said that the time has come to "expose and ostracize cheap Negro politicians and self-appointed leaders who are easily bought for a price at election time". He emphasized that only through "intelligent exercise of the ballot plus full cooperation with the trade unions can the Negro enjoy the full benefits of American democracy."

Dr. L. F. Palmer, director of the extension department of Hampton Institute, said "Negroes must look to the ballot and enlightened public opinion for future representation on the local police force, city council, board of education, and for employment as bus drivers on the Chestnut avenue bus line".

Other speakers were Rev. John B. Henderson, committee chairman, and attorneys W. R. Walker Sr., and Jr., counsel for the committee.

Dr. Jackson was introduced by Mrs. I. B. Thompson, president of the Negro teachers' association. Musical selections were presented by students of the Huntington high school, and the invocation was lead by Rev. McCrary, church pastor.

Birmingham Post
Birmingham, Alabama

Poll Tax

Your editorial, "Poll Tax," is a sneak attack upon democracy.

Your editorial blandly omits to state that for the six years anti-poll-tax legislation has been before Congress, The Post has been opposed to its passage. The fact is that each time a crucial stage in the fight for the legislation has been reached, The Post in editorials and in neatly timed columns by Mark Sullivan has called for votes against those malign forces who disfranchise 10 million Americans and make a mockery of democracy by engaging in an undemocratic filibuster. The fact is The Post opposed anti-poll-tax legislation in peacetime just as stubbornly as it does in time of war.

But in the years that have passed, the moral indignation of the overwhelming majority of American people against the crime of denying 10 million Americans the right to vote, against the use of the filibuster by a willful minority to thwart the will of the majority of the elected representatives of the people, has become so vocal that The Post and its fellow poll-taxers have been forced to shift ground.

Thus your editorial—with less than candor and intellectual honesty—after mildly slapping the wrists of the cabal of poll-tax Senators who are now plotting to give direct aid to Hitler by a shameless filibuster on the Senate floor, comes to the meat of its argument in the "Munich" proposal that since the poll-tax boys are going to be bad boys, it is best not to bring the issue to the Senate floor during the war; that those who do are guilty of a disservice to America.

The Post will not be able to get away with this distortion. To repeal the poll tax laws is to release for fullest participation in our fight for victory and for a democratic peace the energies of 10 million voteless Americans, now hobbled by domestic fascism. There are Americans with enough democratic guts left to guarantee that Hitler fascism abroad and poll-tax fascism at home are beaten into unconditional surrender. JOHN P. DAVIS.

Washington, Nov. 16.

If any Congressman has the effrontery to filibuster for the poll tax, he thereby reveals his abject terror for his position; he knows he would not be there if all the people who are morally eligible in his State could vote. We know that the fight for the poll tax is not for our benefit; we know that propaganda about race has proved only that the Southern whites and Negroes can trust each other even under that strain; we know that we need profoundly to have our vote in 1944—we do not want a poll-tax President! ELIZABETH W. STEPTOE.

Charlottesville, Nov. 16.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

What the Poll Tax Does to the People

WASHINGTON

The poll tax disfranchises approximately ten million colored and white Americans, according to 1940 Census figures.

In a recent study made by the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, it was pointed out that in the eight poll tax States only 29 per cent of the potential voters actually voted in the 1940 Presidential election, while in eight comparable and representative non-poll tax States 82 per cent of the potential voters voted.

Pitfalls Cited

It was further stated that there is little attempt made to collect this tax and that the time for its payment is usually when political interest is at its lowest ebb.

State	White	Colored
Ala.	675,000	525,000
Ark.	475,000	275,000
Ga.	750,000	600,000
Miss.	325,000	575,000
S.C.	350,000	400,000
Tenn.	900,000	300,000
Texas	2,150,000	550,000
Va.	6,400,000	3,600,000
Total	775,000	375,000

Write your Senator to vote to bring the anti-poll tax bill before the Senate immediately. It has already passed the House.

The following table shows the approximate number of colored and white citizens over 21 who were disfranchised in the eight poll tax States in 1942:

Action On Poll Tax Still Hanging Fire

Defender
Chicago, Ill. NOV 6

By HARR McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — The one-day hearing on the poll tax bill has already consumed three days of active hearings and two weeks of waiting. The delaying tactics exposed in the Defender last week have become a reality.

According to Sen. Frederick Van Nuys (D) of Indiana, chairman of the Senate Judiciary committee, a vote will be taken next Monday in the committee on whether to report the bill to the Senate floor. It is expected the committee will vote favorably on reporting the bill, already passed by the House.

There, the responsibility will fall upon Sen. Alben Barkley (D) of Kentucky, Senate majority leader. It is up to Barkley to call up calendared bills for consideration of the Senate.

When the bill is called up—which action can be influenced by public pressure—the next obstacle will be the filibuster by Bilbo and Connally and other poll-taxers.

Cloture Needed

At this point—after reasonable debate—a cloture rule will be necessary to limit debate and cut off the filibuster. But there will not be a real filibuster if the Senate leaders schedule and insist upon night sessions.

Because of the inevitable filibuster and its threat to kill the bill before the measure reaches a vote, the real sincerity of Senators who have pledged their support and expressed their interest to Negro groups in the measure must be judged by their position and insistence on a cloture vote.

This week, the opposition to the bill was heard by the Judiciary committee on the constitutionality of the legislation. The opposition forces were led by Sen. Tom Connally (D) of Texas, a poll-taxer and a member of the Judiciary committee.

Last week, arguing in favor of the constitutionality, were Rep. William L. Dawson (D) of Illinois, the only Negro member of the House of Representatives; Joseph A. Padway, general counsel of the American Federation of Labor; and Lee Pressman, general counsel of the CIO.

Dawson Blasts Levy

Rep. Dawson said a republican form of government guaranteed by the Constitution cannot exist under poll tax conditions. He cited laws and cases to support his arguments, and concluded by saying: "Men are today dying to attain for themselves the very rights which we are called upon to vote for. Democracy is a by-word—our vaunted government of the people, by the people and for the people is a joke to the rest of the world when it appears that our government is unable to fulfill its guarantee to its citizens in the matter of their sacred right to franchise."

Mr. Pressman challenged the committee as to whether it is too much to ask that the Senate have the opportunity to vote on the bill when a majority of the Senate wants to vote on it, the House has already passed it, and the people are demanding it. "That's all we ask," he said.

Sen. O'Mahoney of Wyoming, who expressed himself in favor of abolishing the poll tax, said he believed the only way to do it constitutionally is by amendment to the Constitution. He declared that he has introduced such an amendment.

NOV 6 1943

Sees Majority

A majority of the Senate Judiciary committee has pledged itself to report out the anti-poll tax bill, Rep. Marcantonio (ALP-N.Y.) declared this week.

Marcantonio did not list by name the supporters of the bill, but informal polls of the committee indicate a slight edge in favor of ending disenfranchisement of voters in eight Southern states by the imposition of a voting tax.

Senators said to have committed themselves definitely in favor of reporting out the bill include: Chairman Van Nuys (D.-Ind.), Kilgore (D.-W. Va.), Murdock (D.-Utah), McFarland (D.-Ariz.), Danaher (R.-Conn.,) Wiley (R.-Wis.), Langer (R.-N.D.) and Ferguson (R.-Mich.).

Those listed as opposed include: Connally (D.-Tex.), O'Mahoney (D.-Wyo.), Chandler (D.-Ky.), Andrews (D.-Fla.), Austin (R.-Vt.), and Revercomb (R.-W. Va.).

Senators claimed by both sides include: McCarran (D.-Nev.), Hatch (D.-N.M.), and Wherry (R.-Neb.).

Hard Fight Ahead

Marcantonio said that the fight over the bill on the floor of the Senate this year will be even more prolonged than last year, when the measure was dropped by agreement after a vote for closing debate was lost.

NOV 6 - 1943

"If we can't get cloture," said Marcantonio, "then we are going to insist that the Administration leaders keep the bill before the Senate until it is disposed of. No doubt opponents will charge that we are holding up vital war legislation, but it will not be us, but the filibusterers against the bill who are holding up war legislation.'

Whereas the last Congress expired on Jan. 1 last, necessitating a new start in behalf of the legislation, the present campaign can continue not only all this year but also all next year, if necessary, Marcantonio noted. The bill passed the House last May.

Post
Washington, D. C

A Communication

THE POST in its editorial of November 20 has charged that the supporters of HR 7, the bill to abolish the poll tax, are using the arguments of demagogues. It seems to prefer exercises in constitu[illegible]

NOV 23 1943

The Post claims to be against the poll tax. Yet it takes the position of favoring an approach which satisfies every vestige of feudalism in American politics. A constitutional amendment, requiring the approval of the Legislatures of at least 36 States, would serve only to delay the abolition of the poll tax. It would take only the eight poll-tax States and five additional States to block the passage of a constitutional amendment.

What is the "sloppy practice" in passing an act whose constitutionality may then be tested in the courts? Overwhelming precedent supports this method of procedure, grounded as it is in our system of checks and balances.

Political Life

The Post makes little of the gagging of 10 million citizens in eight poll-tax States, implying that all 10 million would not vote anyway. It ignores the vast stultifying influence on the common man's participation in political life exerted by the poll-tax laws. More important, it flaunts the accepted principles of the Atlantic Charter.

Let's [illegible] the fact that in 1942 the average vote cast in a poll-tax congressional district was 3 per cent of the population, in the average of nonpoll-tax district 25 per cent of the population or more than eight times as many citizens voted.

NOV 23 1943

This means not only that Congressmen and Senators in the poll-tax States are elected by a trivial minority of their constituents, but it also has far-reaching effects in cheapening the value of the vote in nonpoll-tax States. Thus, more votes were cast in 1942 in the election of one Illinois Representative than were cast in the election of all 50 poll-tax Congressmen.

The poll tax is a national issue because poll-tax Congressmen are almost totally independent of the people of their States and are elected and reelected to office. Seventeen poll-tax Congressmen have been in Congress 20 years or more, and since seniority determines control of congressional committees, these Congressmen have a disproportionate and unwarranted influence on legislation affecting the Nation.

The Post minimizes the significance of the amount of money required to meet the poll tax, pointing out that "only in the four cases" where it is cumulative is the poll tax burdensome. But it takes two weeks for 11 working days for the average Mississippian to earn enough to pay his own and his wife's poll tax, if they have been unable to pay the previous year. There is no denying that the poll tax discriminates against the Negroes more than against the whites, since the overwhelming fact is that the Negro population is almost uniformly the lowest income group in the Southern States.

NOV 23 1943

Sound Jurists

To take refuge in the contention that HR 7 is unconstitutional is to view the Constitution entirely apart from its historic role. All sound jurists recognize that the Constitution is fundamentally an instrument to protect liberty, not to abridge it. Only the narrowest view of the Constitution can sanction a cash price as a "qualification" for voting.

But the issue, after all, is not one of constitutional legalisms. The down to earth reality is that America is today tolerating a policy that makes a mockery of our war aims. Supporters of the fight to abolish the poll tax need not resort to the "demagogy" of pointing out that the families of men who are laying down their lives for the four freedoms are nevertheless barred at home from electing their representatives; for the principles for which men from every State are fighting are made hollow by the continued existence of the poll tax.

If we favor abolishing the poll tax, let us do so with the directness of action that befits these critical days. To delay is to drain our reservoir of good will among the oppressed people of the world and to strengthen our enemies within. To pass HR 7 at once is to show the world that we really mean what we're fighting for.

KATHERINE SHRYVER,
Executive Secretary, National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax.
Washington, Nov. 21.

THE HOME FRONT BATTLE

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

Zero hour is again approaching in the Battle of the Poll Tax.

EP 11 1943

When Congress convenes next week, the anti-poll tax bill will be up again for Senate passage. In the last session, this highest legislative body shamefully permitted the Geyer-Pepper anti-poll tax bill to be filibustered to death by a handful of poll tax senators after it had passed the House by a three-to-one vote.

Again the blustering poll-taxers threaten to repeat their performance in this session. Senator Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi has again sounded off with his threat to hold up all war legislation while he filibusters for 18 months if necessary.

SE

There is only one way to halt these enemies of democracy, to limit debate — to "invoke cloture." For this action a two-third vote of the Senate is needed.

Now is the time to start the campaign for cloture. Now is the time to stymie a "gentlemen's agreement" to withdraw HR7 from further consideration if cloture does not succeed on the first vote.

Write your Senator today urging him to:

1. Vote for cloture until the filibuster is broken.

2. Vote for the poll tax bill itself when it comes to a vote.

There is no question but that there are more than enough votes for the poll tax bill in the Senate if it can be brought to a vote. But the poll tax bloc is sabotaging democracy in the Senate by parliamentary finagling just as effectively as the poll tax itself is sniping at democracy.

More than any other citizen, it is the American Negro who is hit by the poll tax, discriminatory registration laws and the white primary. Because he is the poorest of the poor, the Negro is hardest hit by the poll tax.

But it is as Americans rather than just Negroes that we are battling. The denial of democracy to ten million Americans by means of a price tag on a ballot is not purely a southern or Negro issue—but a national, an American issue.

To America at war, the abolition of the poll tax has become a vital thread in the fabric of national war unity. It keeps millions in political peonage. It sells short our soldiers, white and Negro, who are giving their lives for democracy.

This is one of the vital home front battles. Let freedom ring in Birmingham as well as Berlin.

Labor Must Fight for Negro Rights To Swing Southern Vote, CIO Parley Told

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 17.—If labor expects to swing its full weight in elections in the Southern states, it must fight for and win the right to vote for Negroes. This was the conclusion placed before the regional conference for political action in Birmingham last Saturday by Hosea Hudson, Negro steel worker and president of local 2815, USA.

The 15-minute talk, made from the floor during the discussion of the Political Action Committee's resolution, was a high point of the session. When Hudson concluded, Chairman Van A. Bittner, visibly moved by the steel worker's forthright appeal, pledged that the CIO would fight for the right to vote for all, regardless of race, color and creed.

"It is the duty of all officers and members of the CIO, and especially of the Steel Workers Union, to render every service we know of, not only to win the right to vote, but to see that this right is exercised."

WOULD PAY DIVIDENDS

Hudson pointed out that action by labor to secure the franchise for the Negro people would pay dividends not only in doubling the number of labor voters, but also in the support which would be given labor candidates by the whole Negro people, who would recognize the labor movement as their champion.

Hudson said:

"We learned long ago that if we wanted to go forward on the economic front, we had to go forward together. White workers could not make gains unless Negro workers also made gains. The union was strong only if Negro and white were in it together. It is the same on the political front.

"The Negro has the right to vote under the laws of the United States and the laws of Alabama. But the laws of the federal government are violated and the laws of Alabama are applied so as to deprive the Negro of the right to vote.

"I am not talking about the poll tax. True, we must get rid of the poll tax. I am talking about the other ways that Negroes are disfranchised."

CITES STATE LAWS

Then, holding in his hand a copy of the Constitution of Alabama, Hudson called attention to the requirements which voters must fill.

"First, there is the residence requirement. We must live in the state two years, the county one year and the precinct three months. Most of the Negro people meet this requirement.

"Second, we must have been employed the greater part of the 12 months preceding the application. Most of the Negro people meet this requirement.

"Thirdly, we must not have been convicted of any serious crime. Most of the Negro people meet this requirement.

"Fourthly, we must have $300 worth of property or, and I call attention to the word 'or'—or be able to read and write any paragraph from the Constitution of the United States. There are hundreds of thousands of Negroes who can fill one or the other or both of these requirements.

"Yet when a Negro goes to register, what happens? He is given a blank to fill out, while whites have the blank filled out for them by the clerk. The white voter is given his certificate of registration directly. The Negro worker is told that he will hear from the board later. In 99 out of hundred cases, he never hears from the board.

PROPOSES PROGRAM

"I want to propose a concrete program of action by which this great CIO movement of ours can help get Negroes the right to vote.

"First, every city or county industrial council should set up a right-to-vote committee, composed of both white and Negro. The first duty of this committee should be to conduct classes on the election and registration laws, teach the prospective voters how to fill out blanks, and educate them on the U. S. Constitution.

"Second, when the time comes for the Negro workers to go to the courthouse to register, they should be accompanied by a delegation of white workers.

"Thirdly, whenever the board refuses to register a Negro worker, affidavits should be made out by both Negro and white witnesses and a petition for a hearing filed in the courts.

"Because our state law provides that no bond need be posted for court costs in cases of this kind, it is possible to carry through legal tests of this sort at very little cost. But it should be the duty of the right-to-vote committee to raise funds for the cases and to rally support behind them.

"If we do not win our cases in the lower courts, we can appeal them to the higher courts, up to the US Supreme Court. When we win, and we can win with labor support, we can knock out the undemocratic and unconstitutional practices of these Southern states for good and all."

Hudson then told how, in 1938, he became a registered voter. He was accompanied to the courthouse by four white members of the Workers Alliance, who had stood with him, and signed affidavits in connection with his case. He carried his case to court and the board of registrars, in an effort to avoid a test, hurriedly mailed him a certificate of registration.

South Opposed to Poll Tax Repeal?

Daily Worker

AUG 22 1943

Canvass With Mrs. Brown and See

New York, N. Y.

By ROB F. HALL

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.,

THOSE Senators who attempt to justify their refusal to support the anti-poll tax bill on the contention that the majority of the white people of the poll tax states are opposed to the bill, should have gone canvassing with Mrs. Margaret Brown last week.

I talked with Mrs. Brown in her home this morning. She showed me seven or eight petition sheets which she had secured from the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax in Washington.

"There are 75 signatures there," she said. "It took me just about six hours to get them. I talked to 80 people, and so you can see that all but five signed the petitions.

"I am doing my canvassing in the central City Housing project," she said, "which is a federal low-rent housing project for whites with incomes ranging from $60 to $135 a month."

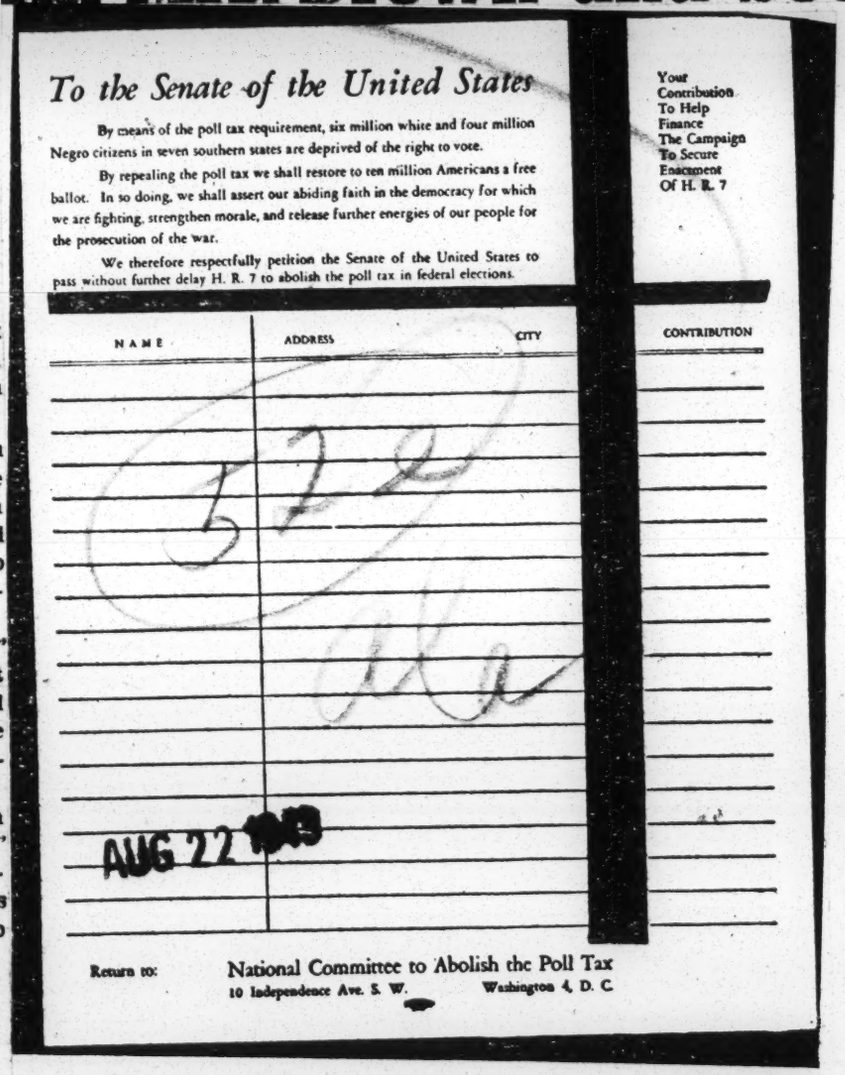
94 Per Cent Favor Repeal

"Wait a minute," I said, and took out my pencil to make some calculations. When I finished I said:

"If your poll is typical, then we can say that about 94 per cent of the white workers in Birmingham are for the abolition of the poll tax. Only six per cent, for one reason or another, favor the continuation of the poll tax."

"Yes," said Mrs. Brown. "Some of these workers have paid their poll tax, but quite a few had not. These are the kind of people that are called shiftless and ignorant and not entitled to vote. But I was in their homes. Those homes were neat, well kept and respectable and these workers were intelligent and interested in public affairs.

"Since I was canvassing during daytime, many of the signers were women. It would have been an eye-opener for some of the bourbons to see how wide awake and alert these women are, and to hear them talk about the war.



To the Senate of the United States

By means of the poll tax requirement, six million white and four million Negro citizens in seven southern states are deprived of the right to vote.

By repealing the poll tax we shall restore to ten million Americans a free ballot. In so doing, we shall assert our abiding faith in the democracy for which we are fighting, strengthen morale, and release further energies of our people for the prosecution of the war.

We therefore respectfully petition the Senate of the United States to pass without further delay H. R. 7 to abolish the poll tax in federal elections.

Your Contribution To Help Finance The Campaign To Secure Enactment Of H. R. 7

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	CONTRIBUTION

Return to: National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax
10 Independence Ave. S. W. Washington 4, D. C.

POLL TAX REPEAL PETITION circulated by Mrs. Brown is reproduced above. Petition forms may be obtained from National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, 10 Independence Ave. S.W., Washington, D. C.

Women Take An Active Part

"One lady told me how mad she and her husband are at the politicians who, she said, have been roosting too long in Washington passing reactionary laws like the Smith-Connally bill, and making it hard for our President to do his job in winning the war.

"In one home, a middle-aged lady asked me to come in. On the wall hung pictures of her three sons in the service, grouped around the picture of Mr. Roosevelt. She spoke of her sons, but her greatest worry seemed to be the health of the President. 'I certainly pray that the Lord will keep him in strength and health so he can bear up against the men that are fighting him so hard,' she told me.

"I wont say I was surprised but I will say I was gratified at the interest the women took in the voting question. They certainly do want the vote for themselves, as well as for their husbands and sons.

"I recall one home I visited, too, where a fourteen-year-old girl spoke up when I told them about my petition. 'The poll tax is undemocratic,' said this girl. 'We had a debate on it in school.' Her mother had some friends or relatives in for lunch, and she said, 'We'll vote that right now' and they all signed my petition.

"In another home, a Negro maid stood by and listened while I talked to her employer. After the white lady had signed she passed the petition over to her maid and asked her whether she wanted to sign. While the maid was writing her name, I said: 'There are some people who don't believe Negroes should vote.' The white lady spoke right up and said, 'Well, I'm not one of them'."

I interrupted Mrs. Brown to point out that the politicians make a great deal of the opposition to the anti-poll tax bill on the basis that abolition of the poll tax would result in more Negroes voting. "Did the five who refused to sign say anything of the sort?" I asked.

What Those Who Refused Said

'Of the five," she said, "three refused to sign on that account. Three that is, out of 80 people contacted. Of the other two, one man said that if there were no poll tax, the corporations would be in a position to control votes of large groups of Negroes in their employ, which is of course completely untrue. The fifth objector simply said that for the state to get the tax money collected from the poll tax was more important than letting 'a lot of ignorant people vote'."

Mrs. Brown said she was aiming at 150 signatures by Sunday and that she must be on her way.

"It is thrilling work," she said. "Almost everybody is friendly. I am always being invited in to have a glass of tea or a soft drink. If the politicians could go with me, they would see that the Southern eople are 100 per cent behind Roosevelt and almost a hundred per cent against the poll tax."

2 Negroes Sue For Franchise In Circuit Court

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.
DEC 31 1943

New Yorker Files Pleas On Their Behalf With Clerk John Matthews

Petitions for appeal to Montgomery County Circuit Court were filed yesterday with Clerk John R. Matthews by Arthur Madison, negro attorney, in behalf of Ola Galloway and Willie Madison, negroes, claiming they were denied the right of registration by the county board of registrars.

At the time the petitions were filed, the attorney said he would file eight to 10 more at an early date, Mr. Mathews said. The Alabama Code permits anyone denied the privilege of registration by the board of registrars to make appeal to the circuit court.

The petition sets forth that the two negroes, Ola Galloway and Willie Madison, "presented themselves before the board duly qualified to become registered voters" but were denied registration. No reasons are mentioned.

Mrs. Frank Nunnelee, chairman of the board of registrars, said last night that she had no comment to make except that the board was entirely within the law in denying registration to the two applicants.

The attorney, Arthur Madison, is a native of Madison Park, Wetumpka Highway, but has been practicing law in New York City for some years.

News
Birmingham, Ala.
DEC 31 1943

Two Negroes Appeal Vote Registration Denial

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(AP)—Appeals from action of the Montgomery County Board of Registrars in denying their applications for voting privileges because of their race were filed in Circuit Court Thursday by Ola Galloway and Willie Madison, Negroes.

Arthur Madison, New York attorney who represents the appellants, was quoted by Circuit Clerk John R. Mathews as saying he had "eight or 10 more" such petitions he planned to file "but hoped to get them adjusted."

The petitions contended the applicants for registration possessed all qualifications to vote under Alabama law, but were denied by the board due to their being members of the Negro race.

Mrs. Frank Nunnelee, board chairman, did not comment except to say the body was within its right in denying registration to the two applicants.

The registration law provides for a jury trial in such appeals. No hearings had been set, pending making up a docket for the Spring term of the civil division of Circuit Court.

52e-1943

On Prison Board

CALIFORNIA



ATTY. WALTER A. GORDON

Who has the distinction of being the first and only Negro ever to be appointed as a member of the State Board of Prison Terms and Paroles. Telegrams and letters have been pouring into the offices of Earl Warren, recently elected governor of California, congratulating him for the appointment of Attorney Gordon. As president of the Alameda County NAACP, Gordon was a member of the Berkeley Police force for several years. He is the assistant coach of the University of California football team on which he was once "star tackle." Attorney Gordon, who will receive a salary of $5000 per year, succeeds P. J. McLaughlin, whose term of office expired. —E. F. Joseph photo.

52e-1943

Florida

Tampa, Fla. Tribune
July 1, 1943

NEGRO VOTERS INCREASE

WASHINGTON, June 30. — (AP) — Florida's Negro population of voting age totaled 316,640 in 1940 compared with 251,025 in 1930, the census bureau reported today. The only Florida city for which the Negro population was given was Jacksonville, with 40,474.

Drums Of Politics

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Call for Political Warfare In 1944, But Colored Voters Are Seen With Shifting Gaze

BY JOSEPH D. BIBB

DISTANT drums are slowly beating out the call for political warfare in 1944. The dull thud of the drum beats does not send a surge of buoyant hopes rising in the breast of the colored voters. They are highly perturbed over their national destiny and from all sides JUL 31 1943 sources, this reporter finds discontent and disillusion. No great champion hails forth as a happy warrior, who is unafraid to remove the bars and barriers that beset these voters, who notoriously maintain the "balance of power." No great political figure looms on the horizon, who seems willing to allay the fears and forebodings of the Tenth American, nor is there concrete reason to believe that either of the dominant political parties, are willing to assume the role of giving the American colored man his rights and privileges. These voters are casting shifty eyes in the directions of both parties and if a discerning mind would peer behind the unchallenging and pleading eyes, he would clearly perceive the doubts and despair that fill the "Souls of Black Folk."



Mr. Bibb

NEW DEAL HAS LOST FACE WITH VOTERS

The Democratic Party, including both its New Deal and "Jeffersonian" constituents, has lost face with the colored voter and in the same breath it appears that the colored voter has lost face with the Democratic Party. President Roosevelt, universally accepted as a shrewd and skillful politician, has done very little, even as political strategy, to appease or satisfy those dark-skinned voters who stood by him in 1940. He stopped playing politics for them soon after he was sworn in.

IT WILL be remembered that when his secretary, Stephen Early, kicked a colored policeman in New York City just before the election, Mr. Roosevelt named Col. Benjamin Davis a general. After his election and the war broke out the clamour and complaint of colored voters brought about the creation of the Fair Employment Practice Committee. This action positively stimulated the war morale and sent the hopes of colored people in a rising spiral. Since that time the White House has been as silent as a tomb.

SOUTH THREATENS

The South came roaring into Washington rattling its bloody saber and the men of "good will" in the Democratic Party surrendered. Indignities, humiliations and insults were flung into the faces of colored people on land, at sea, and in the air. The progress of the colored man was abruptly halted. Let us recall the Poll Tax amendment, the anti-lynch law, the Fair Employment Practice Committee's emasculation, and segregation in the armed forces. We cannot forget Sikeston, Mobile, Los Angeles, Beaumont, Alabama, Georgia and Detroit. Riots threatened the nation and the colored voters stood digging among the charred ruins of blasted hopes.

THE FORTUNES of war brought jobs but also disruption of homes, death in labor battalions and abuse and maltreatment by white soldiers and civilians. As the South rose up again and even threatened secession, the hopes of colored voters fell. The drums of politics do not fill, thrill and summon them to lift up their eyes to the "great humanitarian," who placed human rights over property rights and inaugurated "definite social gains" with forward-reaching legislation. That passed on with a tide of affairs that virtually swept away our political self-respect.

"GRAND OLD PARTY" IGNORES RACE

The "Grand Old Party" of Lincoln, Lovejoy, and Grant comes in on the scene flying no banners, holding forth no great charter for human liberty and no recent record of having served the interests of the colored voters, who have served it almost continually since the Emancipation. Secretary Knox of the Navy, a Republican Wheel Horse, has held the colored voters and their relatives, even in the armed forces, in unutterable contempt. His policies and precepts are as odious as those of Rankin, Dixon and Bilbo. He is a Northern Republican and as such gives no comfort to our voters. Neither does Governor Dewey of New York, whom New Yorkers declare has given no recognition, no patronage, and slight concern to his colored electorate. They say he has become saturated with Southern sentiment, which is close to his call.

IN ILLINOIS, a great pivotal state, boasting a Congressman and many colored men elected to high office, here Governor Dwight Green has blighted the hopes of powerful Republican forces. He has dispensed a feeble amount of patronage, seemed oblivious to party problems, surrounded himself with cohorts and advisors from the Union League club (which denied the use of its facilities to a Jewish Naval Officer last week) and is notoriously unsympathetic with minority groups. He has deserted those who fought his battles, and lined up with the forces that sought his defeat. A former president of the National Negro Bar Association, a prominent attorney, an Amherst and Columbia man, and a faithful Republican is rewarded by being appointed "investigator for the Sales Tax Division," while white precinct workers hold highly remunerative positions.

SOMETHING MUST BE DONE

The Republican Party is styming the hopes of its colored supporters by violating the tenets and traditions of the spoil systems of politics. Hypocrites wearing Republican robes have played politics with Poll Tax legislation and remained absent or on the side lines when their votes were needed. They have aided in abolishing the few institutions that the New Dealers created and from which we received incidental benefits.

THE POLITICAL drums may beat and call the parties to battle but their bands must play some different tunes before the colored votes can be counted. The political front in the United States will be secondary only to the battle fronts within a few short months. The colored voters are bound to be in there fighting, but just what side they will contend on, depends on what is done for them in the meantime.

Negro Vote Seen As Power Balance

Daily World
OCT 16 Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON — (CNS) — Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., New York City Councilman, predicts here this week that the Negro vote will be the balance of the power in the next Presidential election.

"In many states, the Republican and Democratic machines are so close in strength that the Negro has in his hands the election of the next President," he said.

"As things stand now, the Negro will probably vote for Roosevelt; but if Republicans can put up somebody like Willkie, he will sit back and think a while. Right now in New York City, Negro leaders of all parties are banding together to elect a Democratic lieutenant governor, a Republican City Court justice and an independent to take the place I am vacating in the City Council."

Powell declared that the Negro vote can no longer be delivered ty by any one party, and that he Negro voter has become the most independent in the country.

After the meeting, the Harlem Councilman affirmed his generally reported intention to seek a seat next fall in the House from the new 20th Congressional District which as a result of redistricting, will contain a population of 3 per cent Negro.

THE NEGROES SET AN EXAMPLE

Arthur W. Mitchell, the former negro congressman from Chicago (he once taught school in Greensboro, Ala., where The Southern Watchman is published) warns the Democratic Party that if it doesn't do more for the negro, then the negro will go back to the Republican Party in 1944.

Greensboro, Ala., Watchman
September 25, 1943

"The Democratic Party has done much for negroes," said Mitchell, now retired, strangely enough, to jim-crow Virginia rather than to Illinois, a state of equal rights and social equality, "and there can be no doubt that President Roosevelt has been the greatest liberal the White House has ever seen. But the Democrats are asleep and if they don't wake up soon, the colored voters are going to desert them.

"This is no more than they should do. The negro is absolutely right in hitching his wagon to the star which promises to lift him to his rightful place in the firmament. When one political party goes to sleep, it is entirely likely the other party will be prepared to make the best of its past mistakes.

"No more could be asked of any man than the president has delivered, and certainly Mrs. Roosevelt has 'stuck her neck out' in pursuing the democratic course she believes in. The First Family has done its job, and well. It is the attitude of the 'other element' in the party that has provoked the state of dormancy into which it has drifted.

This is sound advice. It is proper that the negro should hitch his star to the wagon which promises to carry him to the greatest heights. It is to be regretted that the South—the white South—hasn't shown the good sense to follow a similar course of enlightened selfishness. This negro Mitchell, even while criticizing the Democratic Party, criticizes only those "other elements." He admits that the President and the Co-President are still the chief hopes of the negro. He might have gone farther to point out that, as far as the National Democratic Party is concerned, these two are the Party. Nothing else matters. It is the Roosevelt Party—and any "dormancy" into which the party has drifted is a purely temporary "dormancy" for political purposes. The Roosevelt Party has the negro vote, and it intends to keep that vote, at the expense of the South. The South is being placated temporarily by this policy of "dormancy," but no one can seriously question where the Roosevelt Party will stand in the end. Certainly Mitchell, as a negro Democrat, as a member of the Roosevelt Party, would not do that. What he says is for obvious political purposes. We repeat, therefore, that it is to be regretted that the South hasn't followed the same course of enlightened selfishness which the negroes have followed. The South, where white supremacy is accepted as a definite political, economic and social policy, has one-fourth of the votes in the Electoral College. That is a tremendous power, yet the South has permitted its own party—the Democratic Party, the party which it has sustained during the years—not only to drift away from a Southern policy, but to drift directly into an anti-Southern policy.

Christian Index, Jackson, Tennessee

WILLKIE ASSAILS BOTH PARTIES ON ATTITUDES TOWARD NEGRO

The result is that both of the major political parties of America are anti-Southern and pro-negro. They both deluded themselves into remaining today to the negro; they both showed so blindly Democratic that they have the utmost contempt for the South, permitted the National Democratic Party since Grant's day. We are sorry to record that the negro leadership of America has displayed more intelligence, and more courage, than has the white political leadership of the South.

The Southern people have no one Party to become the most viciously anti-Southern to blame except themselves. They and consistently

Wendell L. Willkie said both major political parties in a speech at St. Louis, Mo., that their "attitudes must be changed" in approaching the Negro vote.

Urging political and economic equality for Negroes, the 1940 Republican Presidential candidate asserted the two most pressing Negro problems today were inadequate housing and lack of political status.

In an address broadcast on a special program called an "Open Letter on Race Hatred," which presented a dramatized version of the race disturbances in Detroit, Michigan, last month, Willkie said:

"Our two major political parties have their separate ways of approaching the Negro vote. One has a tendency to ask the Negro for his vote as recompense for an act of simply justice done 80 years ago. The other retains political power by, in effect, depriving the Negro of his right to vote in one part of the country, while seeking his vote in another on the plea of great friendship for his race.

"Both attitudes must be changed. One party cannot go on feeling that it has no further obligation to the Negro citizen because Abraham Lincoln freed the slave. And the latter is not entitled to power if it sanctions and practices one set of principles in Atlanta and another in Harlem.

"Our whole purpose today is, with our Allies, to defeat Fasism. But all the forces of Fascism are not our enemies.

'Fascism is an attitude of mind, an attitude which causes men to seek to rule others by economic, military or political force, or through prejudice. Such an attitude within our own borders is as serious a threat to freedom as is the attack without. It is essential that we eliminate it at home as well as abroad."

Asserting that two-thirds of the people who are allied with us do not have white skins." Willkie declared that "race riots in Detroit, Los Angeles and Beaumont, Texas, do not reassure them."

Negroes Draw Up Political Program

Daily Worker, New York

"We hereby serve notice that the Negro has come of age politically," declared a statement yesterday of 20 national Negro organizations assembled under the auspices of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"We repudiate all venal politicians, Negro and white who attempt for personal profit to 'deliver the Negro vote,'" ran the statement of these representatives of an estimated 6,000,000 members

The statement also extends a hand of cooperation to "enlightened labor, church, farm and other groups to oppose actively the current wave of reaction.

"We will combine a minimum program with such enlightened groups," they declare. "Together, these groups constitute a majority of the electorate."

8-POINT "YARDSTICK"

The statement, containing an eight-point "yardstick" on candidates of all parties, warns that the Negro vote, a great strength in 17 states with 281 electoral votes is a potential "balance of power in any reasonably close national election."

"His vote no longer belongs to any one political party," the signers went on. "Although the Negro has largely supported the Democratic Party in recent years, it is highly significant that in 1943 the Negro vote played an important part in the election of a Negro Communist to the New York City Council, a Negro Republican as judge in the same community, a Democratic Mayor in Cleveland and a Republican governor of Kentucky with phenomenal manifestation of independent voting in many other important centers."

The signers, outstanding national Negro leaders, included Mary McLeod Bethune, National Council of Negro Women; Judge William J. Hastie, NAACP; Oscar Brown, Illinois NAACP; C. D. V. Jamison National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. and Alabama Baptist State Convention; Dr. Max Yergan of International Committee on African Affairs and National Negro Congress; Walter White, secretary NAACP; George W. Millner, International Longshoremen's Association (vice-president); George L. P. Weaver, National CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination; A. Philip Randolph, president, and Ashley Totten, secretary, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and Dr. Channing A. Tobias, Social Action Committee of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church.

"The Negro vote no longer can be won by meaningless generalities in party platforms which are promptly forgotten on election day," they said.

"The Negro voter will support a political party which by words and deeds shows its determination to work for full citizenship status for 13,000,000 American Negroes and to better the lot of all disadvantaged people in this country. .....

"Public officers who have not made a record of liberal and democratic action may expect the Negro to help remove them from office."

Point one of the "yardstick" summary, demands "vigorous prosecution of the war" and opposes "any negotiated peace as advocated by the Hitler-like forces within our country."

"Victory must crush Hitlerism both at home as well as abroad."

The signers stress that they are interested in issues as they touch the life of the Negro as a group as well as [illegible] affecting the entire country." The party that seeks to destroy organized labor, or to undermine progressive social legislation, will only receive the Negro's condemnation.

WARNS OF FILIBUSTERS

Subsequent points call for abolition of the poll-taxes and legislation to wipe out lynching. Taking note of the filibuster trick that is threatened against such legislation, the statement warns that "a vote against cloture or failure to vote for cloture will be construed by us as opposition to whatever legislation for the benefit of the Negro and other minorities against which the filibuster is waged.

"The Senate rule requiring a two-thrids majority to end debate, combined with the refusal of Senators to vote for cloture, is one of the greatest obstacles to liberal legislation in general and to legislation for the betterment of the Negro's status in particular."

Further points in the statement cover the urgency of continuing and enforcing the policies of the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

"No injustice embitters Negroes more than continued segregation and disorganization in the armed forces," is the opening section of another section of the statement.

Still another section expresses the concern that "this war bring to an end imperialism and colonial exploitation.

"We insist that all parties and candidates formulate a foreign policy which will resolutely and unequivocally oppose either perpetuation or extension of exploitation based upon 'white superiority or economic or political advantage to 'white' nations at the expense of the two-thirds of the people of the earth who are brown, yellow or black of skin."

Poll Tax-GOP Bloc Kills Army Vote in Senate

Daily Worker, New York

By Adam Lapin

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—A coalition of [illegible] Democrats and defeatist Republicans in the Senate decreed today that most of the men and women in the army services shall not vote in the 1944 elections.

By a vote 42 to 37 margin, the Senate junked the Lucas-Green soldier vote bill to set up working machinery to assure servicemen and women the right to participate in the next presidential election.

And in the same vote the Senate approved the reactionary and dangerous substitute proposal offered by three poll tax senators, James O. Eastland of Mississippi, John L. McClellan of Arkansas and Kenneth McKeller of Tennessee.

The final bill as approved in effect nullifies action of Congress last year which permitted soldiers to vote without meeting the registration and poll tax requiremnts of southern states.

Senator Eastland immediately hailed the Senate vote as a decisive victory for the poll tax bloc which seals the fate of the anti-poll tax bill.

"You can say that for me this bill has forever put an end to anti-poll tax legislation," Eastland said. "We have the vote to beat cloture."

LUCAS ATTACKS MOVE

Senator Scott Lucas, Illinois Democrat who led the fight for the soldiers vote bill declared that the Eastland amendment "was the hardest blow that was ever struck at political rights of the soldier in time of war."

"Those favored the passage of this amendment will have to accept the responsibility to the soldiers, their fathers, their mothers wives and friends."

The real originator of the Eastland proposal is Rep. John Rankin of Mississippi anti-Semitic, Negro baiting Mississippi Democrat.

Rankin has been blocking effective soldier vote legislation in the House Elections Committee, and has been promoting a similar measure to that approved in the Senate.

AFRAID OF VOTE

The Rankin-Eastland bill would simply recommend to the states that they facilitate the voting of soldiers by the present absentee ballot setups.

It in no way improves the chances of soldiers of voting, and actually does substantial harm in nullifying poll tax repeal for soldiers.

Eastland said that he would promptly go before the House Committee and urge approval of the Rankin bill. He claimed a 9 to 4 majority on the House Committee is already in back of it.

It has been clear from the start of Senate debate that poll tax Democrats and most Republicans were determined to prevent the nation's servicemen from voting in 1944.

Despite bragging about their chances in 1944, the Republicans were seriously deathly afraid of the soldier vote.

Here is the final lineup on the Eastland substitute for the soldier vote bill: 24 Democrats and 18 Republicans voted for the Eastland proposals while it was opposed by 25 Democrats and 12 Republicans.

Most of the Democrats who lined up to kill the soldier vote were Southern senators. But they were joined by several other reactionary Democrats including Millard Tydings of Maryland, David Walsh of Massachusetts and Arthur Walsh of New Jersey, Governor Charles Edison's recent appointee.

Republicans who voted to kill the soldier vote included Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota, Albert Hawkes of New Jersey and Wallace H. White of Maine, the acting Republican leader.

STATES CONTROL VOTE

Some defeatist Republicans who had sniped the soldier vote bill apparently decided it would be safer politically to line up against the Eastland proposal.

52e-1943

GENERAL

RACE VOTE IN '44 EYED BY NEW DEAL

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

VIOLENCE, WILLKIE LOOM AS THREATS

By JOHN P. DAVIS,
Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12—In part due to genuine alarm at the growing number of instances of anti-Negro violence and discrimination which have disrupted the war effort and further because of an increasing fear that a "Wendell Willkie" or other Republican champion of Negro rights will walk away with the bulk of the Negro vote in key Eastern and Midwestern states in 1944, there can now be observed among "New Deal" forces here a definite alertness on the "Negro problem."

So far there are only "straws in the wind," but even these indicate a somewhat brighter future for Negro America.

DAVIS FLIES FROM SICILY

The status and future of the Negro in the armed forces is vastly different from what it was a year ago. We already know that a medium bombardment group, consisting at least 400 officers and men, has been approved. For the first time in history the War Department has assigned to Washington two Negro officers to handle the Army's Negro press section. At his press conference last week Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson went into a full report of his contact with Negro troops abroad, praising them highly and indicating among other things that he had had [illegible] Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., [illegible] from Sicily to Tunis for a special interview.

Also in the last few weeks it is known that Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., and Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War, have been on a field inspection trip to get at the bottom of the apparent discontent observable among large numbers of Negro troops.

A Negro major has been named commanding officer of a battalion at Fort Huachuca recently. From all these events it seems reasonable to conclude that fundamental changes in the status of Negro troops, dealing with the Army's present policy of very limited promotions for Negro officers, its age-old policy of segregation, are definitely in the making.

NEW DEAL AGENCIES ON THE ALERT

No less revolutionary changes in other branches of the armed forces, Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps, seem likely.

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SEEK SOLUTION TO PROBLEMS

Certainly Harlem, Detroit, Beaumont as well as many instances of dull anger exhibited by both civilians and military persons in the Negro population have resulted in a new appraisal by Government officials of the serious need for action to integrate Negroes into the war effort. More than this, however, the rapidly approaching election tests leading up to 1944 have played their part.

Although there remains here in the Capital a handful who damn the Negro press for what disaffection there is among Negroes, the more realistic administration spokesmen seem now ready to admit that the Negro press could not play up riots if there were no riots, killings of Negro soldiers if there were no killings and war job discrimination, if there were no discrimination. They seem concerned now about arriving at some reasonable solution of the knotty problem.

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SOME STRAWS IN THE WIND

For example, the fight to force an election for Lieutenant Governor in New York by the Democrats is an effort to give Dewey, prominent Republican presidential aspirant, a resounding beating to take with him into the 1944 election campaigns. Similarly the earnest preparations now visible to win at all costs the mayoralty campaign in Philadelphia, are made with the clear realization that the party winning the contest will go into 1944 with 25,000 city job-holders to campaign in the presidential elections. And the [illegible] are but two of numerous 1943 election contests which cast their shadow forward to 1944. In nearly all of them the Negro vote is of key importance.

Indeed, the victory of anti-New Deal forces in Mississippi primaries are of little importance in the final showdown compared with possible defeat of New Deal aspirations in such key contests as the mayoralty race in Philadelphia, or the fight to force an election for lieutenant governor in New York.

OF COURSE, one thing upon which they properly count is the vast increase in the federal job-holders—now more than 3,200,000. This means a lot but it is not enough, either. Clearly, greater dependence than ever has got to be placed upon the big city machines and the radical groups. The recent eulogistic endorsement by the official Communist organ of Mr. Frank Hague, on the general ground that because of his support of Mr. Roosevelt for a fourth term, they have to love him, illustrates what is going on underneath. And this alliance has been aided personally by the President first, by a series of indefensible appointments for the Hagues, Kellys and Kennedys; second, by extreme coddling of the American Labor Party of New York, which controls 450,000 votes in the greatest state in the Union and is recognized as the most radical organization in America.

But, the great gullible American people are not supposed to know any of this. When the facts are presented they are told that they come from "Roosevelt-haters." Then, the federal jobholders in the various states rush to write denunciatory letters to their local newspapers. All the people are expected to believe is that Mr. Roosevelt reluctantly will consent to run again because there is no one else to conclude the victory or make the peace. They are further expected to believe that he has banished politics from his mind and that his aides are all noble fellows whose only reason for staying in office is to serve the interests of the "common man." There was never anything farther from the truth. That they have gotten away with this bunk so long is no tribute to the intelligence of the people.

SAME OLD NEW DEAL GAME

Sordid politics cloaked by a pretense of purity marks the fourth-term campaign, Mr. Kent asserts

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

By FRANK R. KENT.

Washington.

AS THE campaign for the fourth term progresses, the New Deal strategists are once more demonstrating their extraordinary ability to cover up political practises of an extremely unsavory nature with the pretense of purity. This, to be sure, is an almost invariable rule with all politicians in all campaigns.

But, never has it been developed with such high hypocrisy and skill as by the individuals who directed the 1936 and 1940 Roosevelt fights and who are now directing this one. Having twice proved the great gullibility of the American people one hardly can blame them for thinking that there is no limit to it. With its glamorous leaders operating behind a screen of shining idealism and making monopolistic claim to all the virtues, the agents of this administration consistently deal with the most evil figures in the political world, calculatingly array class against class and effect combinations with the most dangerous groups in the country.

That is not an exaggerated statement. It is a true one, fully susceptible of proof. Twice the New Dealers have played that game and they are now preparing to do it again. In 1936, scattering almost unlimited largess to both, they made an alliance between the farm lobbyists and the labor lobbyists. This was the farm-labor combination proclaimed by Professor Tugwell and which was to relegate business to the rear and dominate the political scene. Though it was an unnatural union it came pretty close to doing exactly that for a while. When to it was added the Negro vote in the Northern States, captured through Mrs. Roosevelt, the W.P.A. and federal jobs, Mr. Roosevelt may have been irresistible in 1936 even without his personal following and even though the Republicans had had a stronger man.

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IN THAT campaign he did not really need the city machines with which he had become allied, but he did need them in 1940. Without Eddie Kelly of Chicago, Eddie Flynn of Brooklyn, Frank Hague of New Jersey, Joe Guffey of Pennsylvania and other of the machine-type bosses the phony third term "draft" certainly could not have been put over. Although Mr. Roosevelt held the Negro vote, the farm vote and the labor vote, without these machines he could not have been elected. In brief, it was these city bosses who supported him for their own sordid reasons and whom he had fattened with federal patronage and favors who put "property rights" above "human rights."

That is a basic political fact which no informed person will dispute. And now, as 1944 approaches, the same game, differing only in detail, is being played. Again represented as the "indispensable man," with heavy emphasis upon the necessity of not changing the "Commander In Chief" until the war is won and the peace made, a strong emotional plea is being made by administration propagandists, while practical fellows do their dealing under cover. There is also the completely dema-

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GENERAL

RACE VOTE IN '44 EYED BY NEW DEAL

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

VIOLENCE, WILLKIE LOOM AS THREATS

By JOHN P. DAVIS,
Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12—In part due to genuine alarm at the growing number of instances of anti-Negro violence and discrimination which have disrupted the war effort and further because of an increasing fear that a "Wendell Willkie" or other Republican champion of Negro rights will walk away with the bulk of the Negro vote in key Eastern and Midwestern states in 1944, there can now be observed among "New Deal" forces here a definite alertness on the "Negro problem."

So far there are only "straws in the wind," but even these indicate a somewhat brighter future for Negro America.

DAVIS FLIES FROM SICILY

The status and future of the Negro in the armed forces is vastly different from what it was a year ago. We already know that a medium bombardment group, consisting at least 400 officers and men, has been approved. For the first time in history the War Department has brought to Washington two Negro officers to handle the Army's Negro press section. At his press conference last week Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson went into a full report of his contact with Negro troops abroad, praising them highly and indicating among other things that he had had [illegible] Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., flown from Sicily to Tunis for a special interview.

Also in the last few weeks it is known that Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., and Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War, have been on a field inspection trip to get at the bottom of the apparent discontent observable among large numbers of Negro troops.

A Negro major has been named commanding officer of a battalion at Fort Huachuca recently. From all these events it seems reasonable to conclude that fundamental changes in the status of Negro troops, dealing with the Army's present policy of very limited promotions for Negro officers, its age-old policy of segregation, are definitely in the making.

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Indeed, the victory of anti-New Deal forces in Mississippi primaries are of little importance in the final showdown compared with possible defeat of New Deal aspirations in such key contests as the mayoralty race in Philadelphia, or the fight to force an election for lieutenant governor in New York.

The accumulation of resentments inevitably created by a too long tenure of office. The job of the fourth-term managers is to offset these defections and they are going at it in an exceedingly practical way.

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That is a basic political fact which no informed person will dispute. And now, as 1944 approaches, the same game, differing only in detail, is being played. Again represented as the "indispensable man," with heavy emphasis upon the necessity of not changing the "Commander In Chief" until the war is won and the peace made, a strong emotional plea is being made by administration propagandists, while the practical fellows do their dealing under cover. There is also the completely dema-

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We Vote as We Live

New Republic

Ballots and the Democratic Class Struggle, by Dewey Anderson and Percy E. Davidson. Stanford: Stanford University Press. 390 pages. $4.

New York, N. Y.

EVERYONE HAS HIS THEORIES about why people vote as they do; this book has the merit of being one of the few intensive statistical studies revealing most of the relevant facts concerning voting habits in a specific area. The unit chosen for study, Santa Clara County, California, may not be typical of the country as a whole, but the results are so nearly what one would expect for a traditionally Republican community that one is tempted to guess that it is typical at least for many others in the North. It is also possible to assume that the same conclusions might apply in the South if one reversed the party names.

While there is a variation in the votes cast for the two major parties from year to year, and a somewhat smaller variation in the registration figures, the essential characteristics of the pattern are not greatly changed. Without going into the refinements of the statistics, which deserve to be carefully studied by all who have an interest in the subject, it is possible to summarize roughly what they show. The people who have occupations with the higher prestige, those who have the higher incomes, and to a somewhat smaller degree, those who have the larger property stakes, are predominantly Republican. The percentage of Democratic votes increases steadily as one goes down the scale, no matter what test of economic or social gradation one applies. This is true even as one steps from skilled workers to semi-skilled and from them to the unskilled. These factors apparently play a far greater role in voting than race, nationality, religion or sex, although the authors do find a tendency for women to conform more closely to the traditional pattern than men. It is also true, of course, that there is a correlation between the characteristics connected with birth or inheritance and the occupational or economic ones.

It is emphasized by the authors that this picture is a statistical one, revealing tendencies with many exceptions, rather than an absolute division along class lines. One cannot predict with certainty that because a given individual has high prestige in the community or a large income he will be a Republican. And there are interesting subdivisions within the main groups. While the professions, for instance, are as a whole more solidly Republican than any other occupation, those professional workers who are adherents of the leading party by 63 percent or more are librarians, school officials, attorneys, dentists, physicians, clergymen, teachers and engineers, while trained nurses and druggists are Republican by between 52 and 62 percent, and musicians and writers are Republican by only 51 percent or less. And at the other end of the scale, the only unskilled workers who belong to the high Republican group are houseworkers, while custodians, laundry workers, janitors, caretakers, railway section hands and gardeners belong to the moderate Republican group, and teamsters, cement workers, fruit workers, general laborers, cannery workers and waiters are least Republican of all.

It is striking that the only occupation which is not represented in the low-Republican group consists of proprietors, managers and officials.

The interpretation which the authors draw from these facts is not at all the rigid Marxist one that people are divided into classes according to their ownership of productive property. They see the stratification as a complex one stemming mainly from social tradition, with a large component of habit and another of prestige. They are far from hopeless of achieving political changes in the interest of the masses by the instrument of the ballot. They point out that this would follow not only from the education of the voters of the lower economic brackets in the action required to serve their interests, but also from better information on the part of voters at the upper end of the scale. Conflicts there undoubtedly are, but in many cases the interests of all might be served by better information and adjustment among the competing groups.

The authors do vigorously dispute, however, the further usefulness of inculcating the American mythology which would merge the interests of all citizens and groups in an undifferentiated search for the "common good," ignoring all classes and group differences simply because all individuals have theoretical political equality. Education, they believe, should be directed rather to careful definition of the separate interests, together with training in the means of their mutual accommodation under a democratic system.

There is undoubted truth in this position, but to the reviewer the authors seem to carry it too far. What they propose is capable, at its worst, of producing a log-rolled tariff, or of bringing about a competition between labor and agriculture for greater monetary rewards at a time when the interest of all demands a stable price level. Do we not need, instead of a deflation of the concept of the common interest, a better and more dynamic definition of it?

GEORGE SOULE

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Negro-Labor Vote Will Control '44 Elections, Says Dr. Powell

By ADAM CLAYTON POWELL
(Released by ANP)

Now that the smoke of battle has blown away and the noise of the struggle has died down it is time to evaluate carefully the past political campaign.

These facts stand out:

The Republican Party is almost in the saddle;

The rising labor-Negro vote threatens to be the biggest national political force;

The American Labor party in Manhattan definitely controls the balance of power;

The Negro people have reached a stage of political maturity never before approximated by any other group.

Dewey Leads Willkie

As the Republicans swing into the forefront in our national scene it is wise for those of us who think that America is bounded on the north by Spuyten Duyvel Creek, on the west by the Hudson River, on the east by the Harlem River and on the south by New York Bay, to realize that Thomas E. Dewey and not Wendell Willkie is the man of the hour.

We Manhattanites are too prone to judge the rest of America by our own borough. At present Dewey is around 10 or 25% out in front of Willkie, nationally. However if the Republican Party continues to grow, it is possible that they will scrap a "strong man" like Willkie or Dewey and in the upsurge some nincompop on the style of Harding will be swept into office.

The Democratic Party can salvage itself, however, but it can only do it in two ways. First, the President must stop playing ball with the so-called Solid South, which is going to vote for him anyway but whose votes in the Electoral College do not add up to the immense total of Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan and New York.

Secondly, the Democratic party needs to clean up from top to bottom. Especially is this true in New York City. New York is a democratic town. It can't be a Democrat town as long as it is being led by tin-box slush fund ward heelers.

Labor Loses in Detroit

One of the most heartrending losses was the defeat of the Labor-Negro candidate in Detroit. Fitzgerald was defeated by spineless Jeffries by 30,000 votes. It is well to go back to the last time Labor tried to influence the election in Detroit. Labor was defeated by 110,000 votes. It is a safe prophecy to state that next year Labor and the Negro will lead the Detroit vote.

The CIO has put five million dollars into a political education fund under Sidney Hillman's chairmanship. It is safe to bet that the twelve million votes of organized Labor and the four million Negro votes will elect next year's president.

The American Labor Party in Manhattan under Vito Marcantonio, by throwing his power with the Republican Party, delivered 62,000 votes. This demonstrated clearly that in this borough where the Republican and Democrats are so evenly divided the ALP now has the balance of power.

The picture nationally shapes up as follows:

F.D.R. is not a sure for '44;

The Negro-Labor vote will elect next year's President;

Dewey is leading Willkie by a comfortable margin;

The Negro no longer belongs to any party."

52e-1943

AYD Urges Action On Soldier Vote

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

DEC 2 1943

Taking up the fight to assure the full right of ballot to every member of the armed services in 1944 American Youth for Democracy through its national officers today demanded of Senate Majority Leader Alben Barkley and Senate Minority Leader Charles McNary that the Green-Lucas Servicemen's Absentee Vote Bill be passed immediately.

Hitting out against the efforts of Republican reactionaries and poll-taxers to attach restrictive riders to the bill, AYD insisted it be passed without crippling or restrictive amendments that would foist poll-tax restrictions or other limitations on the soldier vote.

All state and regional organizations of the AYD received wires today from AYD national headquarters urging them to immediately "bombard" their Senators with an insistent demand for action in line with the telegrams dispatched by national executive secretary, Carl Ross, to the Senate Majority and Minority leaders.

Weekly Speaking



Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.
BY ROBERT ROBINSON

The Anti-Poll Tax And Anti-Lynch Bills

Since their introduction, there are two bills in Congress which are used like a football. They have been run, passed, kicked and fumbled about over both houses of Congress but never carried for a touchdown. The so-called Southern Bloc, with quarter back Bilbo of Mississippi calling fillibuster plays, have held both bills continuously in the middle of the field. Advocates of the bills have found a new play called, "The Cloture Stamp" but can't get enough players out for practice to master the play. While this picked- All-American Team waste time and money delaying the passage of the bills, millions of poor whites and Negroes in the South remain disfranchised and victims of the mob spirit.

Last week they decided to use the Federal Aid Education Bill for their pig skin. Both sides were caught off-side when the 3rd quarter ended. The advocates had an over-zealous player known as Senator William Langer of South Dakota who didn't know his team's signals well and ran the bill accross the wrong goal to score for the opponents. His grandstand play has penalized the South one hundred years of progress. But he is an idol of the opponents of the bill who evidently believe that an equally educated American population would endanger the progress and efficiency of a capitalistic system. They are either surface thinkers or selfish bigots .

It is very peculiar that we Americans profess so ardently our belief in democracy and yet promote so much strength to defeating measures that promise to make democracy real.

Was communism thrust upon Russia from the out side? No. Communism was a seed that germinated from the ignorance and oppression of the common mass of Russia. Likewise, it was ignorance, oppression and the mob spirit of Germany that developed Hitler. Still we gallop on, blind to such facts sowing nitrogen into the soil of detention.

Some have said that the anti-lynch and anti-poll tax bills becoming law would not help the cause of the Negro people because public opinion was against such measures. Such propaganda is a weak evasion. When laws are needed to discipline society it is not a policy of our Judiciary system to wait upon a complete agreeable [illegible] of the public. The purpose of law is to change public opinion if necessary.

Soon after the close of the first World War, I was a little fellow visiting relatives relatives in Tennessee. One evening we were playing games on a church yard when people began to whisper around that a mob had taken a Negro man from jail. Our attention was called to a fire light in far distance. People began to say that they smelled the parching of flesh. The next morning the report was cleared. The victim had been taken from jail by the mob, dragged over the highway four miles and burned while hung to a tree. I was mystified horrified and cried to go home.

Last Friday night here in the Tri-Cities the mob spirit attempted to march. The Mob of approximately 100 men searched Deputy Sheriff Lee McCorkle for the keys to the county jail at Tuscumbia seeking to lynch two young Negroes under life sentence for the slaying and robbery of a white filling station operator near Leighton, but for the quick thinking of Deputy McCorkle and the prompt appearance on the scene of State Guard Companies from Florence and Tuscumbia, we here in the Tennessee Valley would have our heads hung in shame.

I have little sympathy and patience with anyone who will rob and kill be he black or white. But those who would disrespect the law to murder over the decision of our courts are most dangerous. Therefore there should be an anti-lynch law with clause to punish attempting officers severly.

Negro Vote Drifting To Republicans

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News

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NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

Birmingham, Ala.

BY PAUL MALLON
Special National Correspondent

MOST INTERESTING AND PERHAPS MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE LAST ELECTION did not show itself until the detailed final returns came in.

The Democrats not only failed to get their usual strong labor majorities, but their city Negro majorities as well.

Symptoms of a change-over in the country at large were clearly suggested in the scattered sample voting of these two class groups to which the national administration has appealed so conspicuously with special leadership.

In Harlem, the Republicans actually won a plurality in the 21st Assembly District (all Negro) where count showed Hanley, Republican, 5,942; Haskell, Democrat, 5,752; Haskell, American Labor party, 1,760. In Lower West Harlem (19th District), which is also Negro, the Democratic poll was only 700 votes more than the Republican, out of 8,500 cast.

* * *

Same Symptoms Are Seen In Philadelphia

SOME ATTRIBUTE THIS ALMOST EVEN SPLIT IN HARLEM to the fact that a Negro Republican candidate was running to be a city court justice (he won).

But the same symptoms were evident also in Philadelphia where there is no counterpart of the Tammany Democratic machine which has run Harlem. There the Republicans won the Negro 30th Ward by 1,500 (during the New Deal it has been Democratic by 1,500), the Seventh Ward by 2,500 (usually Democratic by 3,000), also the 44th, 20th, 22nd and 47th Wards—and this was against Bill Bullitt, the president's friend, for whom Mrs. Roosevelt appeared on the platform.

In the Brooklyn 20th and 21st and Queens' Second, the same thing happened.

In Kentucky, the Republican leaders claim, without being able to substantiate it by figures, that 90 per cent of the Negro vote went Republican.

In Detroit's supposedly non-partisan election, the official United Automobile Workers-Negro groups candidate was defeated by a candidate who had the backing of Republicans.

* * *

Labor Leaders Unable To Hold Their People

THIS CHANGE-OVER IN THE NEGRO VOTE WAS SUGGESTED in advance by some Negro educators and leaders and some Negro newspapers taking the position, at a religious convention and otherwise, that further support of the administration was not warranted.

Labor leaders, on the other hand, just could not hold their people Democratic with CIO support, the AFL official who ran for governor unsuccessfully in New Jersey was able to pull the full labor vote only in Camden County (shipyards, CIO).

Elsewhere in union strongholds through the thickly industrialized sections of the state, Republican Walter Edge got the majorities (excepting only Boss Hague's district). Thus the change-over showed even in the case of a candidate who had CIO, AFL, the national administration and the Jersey City machine.

* * *

National Labor Split-Vote Evident

SUCH DETAILED EVIDENCE, ON TOP OF THE ALREADY NOTICED DECLINE in power of the American Labor party in New York, the San Francisco mayoralty result, Detroit and Kentucky obviously confirm a national labor split-vote.

In Kentucky, of course, John Lewis' mine workers voted Republican, although Mr. Roosevelt handed the mines back to Mr. Ickes the day before election, as Lewis wanted.

If the administration cannot hold labor and Negro group votes, there is no other large class group vote in the country which it can be said to control.

Measures To Delay Voting Are Protested

DEC 4 1943

Civil Liberties
Daily World

Union Deplores Senate Action

Atlanta, Georgia

NEW YORK—(ANP)—The American Civil Liberties union last week protested all measures to delay the abolition of the poll tax, and likewise criticized protest against the proposed constitutional amendment to substitute H. R. 7, now pending in the senate. In a letter to Sen. Joseph C. O'Mahoney who favored the constitutional amendment, Arthur G. Hays, general counsel for the union, wrote:

"We considered the arguments in favor of a constitutional amendment and came to the conclusion that whatever merit it might have it should not be used as a means of evading the issue at this time. We much prefer to see the issue have been flying combat missions daily, weather permitting, since June 2, when they went into action over Pantelleria."

Capt. Hall, their leader, is the first Negro to get official credit for shooting down a German plane (Focke-Wulf 190, July 2, over the Castel Vetrano airfield, Sicily). He has been on 37 missions. Hall completed three years of pre-medical training at Eastern Illinois State Teachers college when he volunteered for the Air Force.

1st Lt. William [illegible] Thompson, 26, Chicago, likewise has 37 combat missions to his credit. Thompson graduated from the department of business administration at Tuskegee Institute.

1st Lt. Jack Rogers, 25, Chicago, is a graduate of Chicago Teachers college where he was a student of Lt. Price D. Rice of Monticlair, Miss., topmost branches of the tree, Douglas Elementary school.

CREDIT TO RACE

1st Lt. James T. Wiley, 25, of Pittsburgh and 1st Lt. Herbert Ecers and how about saluting, hed. Carter of Amory, Miss., "were two was told that they believed they re- further good examples of the type ceived even more than their mili- of Negro officers who are bringing tary share of legal courtesy, that credit to their race," stated Knick- they had never had an enlisted man erbocker. "They has a BS degree in all to salute if by chance or in- physics from the University attention their eyes met.

Such amazing behavior so intrigued Lt. Rice that he circled, gave the German time to climb into the air left no doubt that the window of headquarters, dash experience only across the field and begin to climb hunting felt at a tree.

When Knickerbocker brought up their hops, expe- the question of how the rest of the underlin[illegible] discrimination back German headquarters about dawn

PAJAMAS

A humorous story was that the German officer clad in red and stripped pajamas leap from topmost branches of the tree, whereupon Rice came back and let one day had dropped surely potted the unfortunate offi- cer whose instinct for safety had

"But why do you think he wanted to climb the tree?" listeners asked, "and the thought of this oddity struck us all as so funy," Knickerbocker said, "that other air force officers asked us what we were laughing about."

DEC A 1943

PROUD OF THEIR WORK

In a very sober mood, Knickerbocker stated that these Negro soldiers "are chasing and killing Germans every day in 'close support' work of the riskiest character," and added that "the U. S. army air force is proud of them."

Four Million Negro Votes Seen For '44

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Figures from sources which have previously been considered authentic say that in the coming elections, some 4,000,000 Negroes will exercise the right to vote and cast their votes in the presidential elections.

The larger number of eligible Negroes, other than the figure given above are in south where they are denied the privilege, however, they are expected to prove in many states, like Pennsylvania, where in two big cities, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, to be the balance of power. The proportion of Negro voters in these two cities is larger in comparison with the [illegible] ation that in cities like Chicago and New York.

DEC 29 1943 AUG 29 1943

Both major parties are interested in these figures and hope to capture the bulk of this immense vote.

Figures are both male and female voters and cover most of the states where Negroes are politically minded.

Estimate 4,000,000 Negro Votes in '44

Call Kansas City, Mo

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Figures from sources which have previously been considered authentic say that in the coming elections, [illegible],000,000 Negroes will exercise the right to vote and cast their votes in the presidential elections.

SEP 10 1943

Both major parties are interested in these figures and hope to capture the bulk of this immense vote.

Figures are for both male and female voters and cover most of the states where Negroes are politically minded.

SEP 10 1943

Negroes Held To Have Vote Balance On Coast

Defender Chicago, Ill—

Recent Negro migrants to the Pacific coast from the South may hold the balance of voting power in the Western states, Horace R. Cayton, Parkway Community Center director, said Thursday at a meeting sponsored by the Chicago Urban league.

The influx of thousands of Southerners to the war industrial centers of the West, is a factor not to be overlooked in the coming presidential election, said Cayton, who recently spent six weeks in the West.

The new arrivals, Cayton said, have received their only political guidance from the conservative employing companies and from the Congress of Industrial organizations.

Such mass migration, which in Los Angeles amounts to the arrival of 1,500 persons a day, will probably result in an increase in racial conflicts and prejudices will become a national rather than a sectional problem, Cayton declared.

OCT 23 1943



Bee (Magazine Section)
Chicago, Ill.

DO'S AND DON'TS — The strength of your vote will determine whether he will keep his promise Unless Negroes everywhere exercise their right to vote in the states where they have the right, he will get nothing but promises.

NOV 14 1943

SOUTHERN SAY-SO

Perry Howard Should Now Find Way for Enfranchising Southern Negroes

DEC 10 1943 DEC 18 1943

By M. S. STUART

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

WITH the exception of Tennessee, where white people are so anxious for Negroes to vote some few of them have been known to "lend" good colored friends a dollar or two now and then to pay poll tax, Perry Howard is technically right in holding that the anti poll tax bill now before the Congress, if enacted, will not have any appreciable effect in enfranchising Southern Negroes. But in so holding publicly, Mr. Howard has started something which he is under racial obligations to carry through to its utmost limits. He cannot gracefully leave the question on the half-way fence where he has hung it.



Mr. Stuart

The poll tax is not the big trouble in most of the South. Removing it would not help much. What keeps Negroes from voting in this section are raw, crude violations of the plain intent of the law, so flagrant that their toleration ought to be a source of shame to all high class lawyers, regardless of political affiliations.

FOR example, in one state, registrations and qualifications are in the hands of the county circuit clerks, who, of course, being elective are direct beneficiaries of the obstructive intimidations imposed to bar Negroes from registering. In that state, besides the poll tax, the only other requirements are one year's residence and the ability to read, or reasonably interpret, any section of the Constitution selected as a test. If any grammar school graduate cannot pass that test when fairly administered, then that makes of the educational system of that state a hollow mockery and an inexcusable waste of the tax payers' money in so far as Negroes are concerned.

NO PRETENSE OF FAIRNESS

DEC 18 1943

But years ago, before Negroes had despaired of claiming their constitutional right to vote, most of the county clerks, or their underlings, usually not themselves very literate, would refuse to qualify all, or all but a token number, of the colored men who tried to qualify, no matter whether they were college graduates or not.

NOT many of the qualifying officers even pretended that their decisions regarding Negroes were fair. They boldly stood on the fact that the law made them the judges of the qualifications and boasted that in their opinions few if any, Negroes were qualified to vote, no matter how well they could read. Now, here is a bold undenied system of law violation that ought to challenge the courage, professional respect, and aggressiveness of the legal profession in behalf of the clean jurisprudence as well as the rights of the Negro.

DEC 18 1943

GIVES AMMUNITION TO RACE'S ENEMIES

In Perry Howard the race has one of its most resourceful legal minds, and now he has cut out a job peculiarly his and from which this column believes he should not shrink. He knows that the disqualifying techniques in vogue in the South are cold bloodedly illegal; and if he sets his mind to the task he can find the way to set in motion the machinery that will bring this question as a whole up to the Supreme Court so as to get a ruling that will affect not just one case; but which will outlaw the entire system.

DEC 18 1943

IF the renowned politician stops right here, he lays himself open to the charge of intentionally providing aid and comfort for the opponents of Negro progress. This writer does not believe Perry Howard intends to do any such thing But just look how it appears Senator Bilbo pounced upon the letter to Senator Langer with gleeful avidity. George Morris of the Commercial Appeal, consistent columnar critic of anything favorable to Negroes, devotes his entire column of December 4 to the highest praise of "this able Mississippi Negro lawyer," daring Senators Barkley and Pepper to meet Howard in debate on the platform advises Negroes of the country to ponder what Perry says and hints that the latter sent Bilbo a copy of his letter to Langer. To say the least, Negroes will look askance at Mr. Howard in the arms of these race opponents. Colored people are fed up on somebody always showing how something good cannot be done for them, and then not pointing out how it can be done.

52e-1943

General

Atlanta Constitution
February 11, 1943

Senate Passes Bill to Lower Vote Age Limit

Proposal to Amend Constitution Now [illegible] the House

By C. E. GREGORY

The State Senate Thursday, by a vote of 39 to 8, passed the administration bill reducing the voting age limit in Georgia from 21 to 18 years.

The measure was a constitutional amendment and required 35 votes for passage.

The bill originated in the Senate and must be passed by the House of Representatives and signed by the Governor before it can be submitted to vote of the people.

Governor Ellis Arnall had made the measure one of his administrative objectives and was greatly pleased when the Senate passed it.

The proposal will be submitted to the voters in the next general election, if finally passed, and the issue will be decided by the older voters, since the younger ones can not participate in elections until the amendment is ratified by the people.

Senator Walter Harrison, of Millen, opened the debate on the 'teen-age voting bill with a speech in favor of it.

"It takes youth to make things go," Senator Harrison said. "These boys and girls will add fresh water to the pools of democracy. Educational standards in Georgia have been raised. The press, the radio and public forums have kept young people informed as never before. Not one-third of the older people vote anyhow, and many of those who do let the election managers tell them how to vote."

Stark Opposes "Fool" Bill

Senator W. W. Stark, of Commerce, declared that the bill would disorganize the entire voting system in Georgia. He pointed out that it would enfranchise young Negroes as well as white boys and girls.

"The Governor is a fine young fellow but if he had announced 30 days before the election that he was for this bill he would have been defeated in every county in Georgia," Senator Stark said. "This fool bill would mix politics up in every high school and college in Georgia.

Senator Jack Williams, of Waycross, said he had opposed the bill originally but decided that he had no right to try to keep the people of Georgia from deciding whether they want to extend the franchise to boys and girls.

Senator Alpha Fowler, of Douglasville, said he had a boy who went to the University of Georgia and became intensely interested in public affairs.

"That boy, and the university boys he brought home with him on week-ends, had some of the finest ideas I ever heard about improvement of the state government and the advancement of Georgia," Senator Fowler said.

"This bill doesn't do away with the white primary. We still have that and will always have it. Boys who are old enough to give their lives for their country have a right to say how that country ought to be run. They will improve our government."

Up to the People

Senator John M. Simmons, of Brunswick, spoke for the bill.

"I have never voted against a constitutional amendment and I don't think a governor has the right to veto a constitutional amendment, as has been done in this state," Senator Simmons said.

"The people should always be given a right to pass on legislation affecting them. Young people are further advanced in education and training now than they were in our days. They are well posted on public affairs. I have a son who was secretary and treasurer of a $1,500,000 corporation before he was 21, and he did a better job than any other man had ever done."

Senator Herschel Lovett, of Dublin, prefaced his remarks by saying he was not opposing the bill because it was an administration measure and he had been aligned with the last administration.

"University System Bill"

"Pamphlets have been sent down here from New York and Washington asking us to vote for this bill," Senator Lovett said. "I believe this is a university system bill, and that they want the children to control their parents."

Senator David Atkinson, of Savannah, made the concluding argument for the bill.

"The ideals of young people are higher today than they ever were before," Senator Atkinson said. "There are no strings tied to them. They are looking to the future and striving to build a real democracy in which to live. Remember that these boys and girls do not get to vote on this amendment. It is the older people who will decide whether to allow the boys and girls to vote. They have that right."

Arnall Endorses Vote Bill

Governor Arnall strongly endorsed the measure to reduce the legal voting age in Georgia from 21 to 18 years.

"Give me the backing of the boys and girls and we will save this state," the Governor said. "I hope the Senate and House of Representatives both will vote to submit this amendment to the people. Georgia is rich in natural resources, but its greatest asset is the fact that we have the finest boys and girls in the country.

"I want to see Georgia become the first state to submit this constitutional amendment to the voters and thus give voting power to the boys and girls who are right now defending this country with their lives."

President Frank Gross introduced a constitutional amendment Thursday to permit counties and cities to issue revenue anticipation obligations without having them charged up as public debts. The obligations would be used only for the construction of public works expected to be self-upporting and revenue producing.

Senator Claude Pittman introduced a bill to make tax assessors eligible for reappointment without the lapse of one year, but ineligible for appointment to any other county office.

Insurance Commission

Senators Arnall and Harrison introduced a measure providing for the creation of a state insurance commission of five members to pass upon the qualifications of agents selling insurance. The measure provides for the appointment of men who have had experience in fire, casualty, marine insurance or the sale of fiduciary bonds, they would be appointed by the Governor with the advice of the state insurance commissioner, and be paid $7 per day for their services, but not in excess of $500 per annum.

Senator Walter Harrison introduced a bill to amend the homestead exemption law so as to extend the benefits of the law to a person who is compelled to occupy another house temporarily while his legal residence is under repair or reconstruction.

Bill Would Divide State as to Time

The State Senate had before it Thursday a proposal to go back to the time-honored custom of observing Eastern time in the eastern half of Georgia and Central time in the western half, with an hour added by the Federal Government as wartime.

The proposal came in a report of the Senate committee on the state of the republic, which offered a substitute for the Lovett bill seeking to return the entire state to Eastern War time. Senator Herschel Lovett, author of the Eastern time bill, agreed to the committee substitute.

Senator William Lester, of Augusta, chairman of the committee, proposed the substitute. He was a joint author of the Lovett bill.

Two weeks ago the present Legislature changed the state from Eastern War time to Central War time without any previous notice. Then came the bill to go back to Eastern War time.

Race To Discard Party Labels In 1944 Vote

Chicago Defender
MAY 22 1943
Chicago, Illinois

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — There is a growing unrest among Negro voters as they look toward 1944. So says the "black cabinet" in Washington.

Government employees cannot engage in political activities and campaigns. The Hatch act forbids it. But there are no restrictions on observation. And many of the high ranking Negroes in the government have been keeping their eyes open and their ears attuned and are seeing this definite political "growing-up" and unrest on the part of Negroes.

These men, most of them, travel extensively over the country. Many of them have representatives of their agencies, attached to their offices, who are located in the regional set-ups throughout the country. The reports of their regional representatives, giving community and public reaction to programs and developments, reflect a growing political unrest on the part of the masses of Negroes.

As a result of these observations and reports, it is a concensus among the members of the "black cabinet" that the Negro, in 1944, will be voting on men and issues rather than by party labels. It is their concensus that neither of the major political parties, by following their present trends, will be able to consider the Negro vote a "cinch" in 1944.

The Negro, therefore, appears to be shedding party labels. He will be independent in 1944, casting his vote for men and for issues. And he is measuring his men and analizing the issues.

His votes will be extremely important, too! The Gallup poll has recently revealed that 58 per cent of the war workers in industrial areas did not vote in 1942. Much of this was due to migration. But the Negro—denied opportunity to move about as freely because of resistance to hiring him and often because of inadequate war-housing, even when jobs were available to him—has found his war work at home. He is still a voter, and will be in 1944. His balance of power may be even more potent, as a result.

MAY 22 1943

Strictly An Independent

The Defender, in order to determine the basis of this political unrest which makes the Negro's vote uncertain in 1944, has collected a mass of material on the Negro political prospectus.

That material shows that the Negro, prior to 1932, was a Republican with few exceptions. The party label was part of his dress. In 1932, 1936 and 1940 he aligned himself with the New Deal Democrats. In 1942, he began a swing back toward the Republicans. But today, he faces 1944 as an independent.

The Negro vote was a powerful factor in the 1940 New Deal victory in view of the serious threat that had arisen in the third term opposition led by Jim Farley, and in the Southern bloc which resented the recognition and advances which had come to the Negro under the New Deal.

MAY 22 1943

The Southern bloc began organizing its lines in a tighter formation. They got sympathy from the "isolationists" whose anti-Roosevelt sentiment gave a common meeting ground. A rift in the party ranks was threatened.

The New Deal began thinking of expcdiency rather than principle.

A deaf ear was turned to the pleas of Negroes to be allowed a chance to participate fully in their country's defense work.

Developments affecting the Negro began taking a turn in the opposite direction. The soft-pedal was applied. The Southern bloc was appeased. Politicians were advising the White House that nothing should be done to further alienate the solid South.

Most government agencies, despite difficulties of obtaining workers, resisted the hiring of Negroes other than as messengers and custodial workers.

The army was extending its rock-ribbed policy of segregation and no word was uttered to curtail it. The navy was threatened.

Labor stringencies resulting from the marines excluded them entirely.

By threat of a march on Washington, an executive order was wrung from the President in June of 1941. A fair employment practice committee was set up to police adherence to the order by defense industries and government agencies.

But this move, though hailed by Negroes as a second emancipation proclamation, had been born of protest. A louder howl rose from the Southern bloc, which reached its crescendo when the FEPC moved into Birmingham, Ala., to hold hearings on discrimination.

The result was the scuttling of FEPC by cancellation of scheduled hearings in the Southwest on discrimination against Negroes and Mexicans, and the "postponement" of the committee's proposed railroad hearings.

In the meantime, war had come to us!

Labor stringencies resulting from the war on a larger scale than the

world had ever known or dreamed, rather than any forthright action of the New Deal, were forcing employers in war industries and government to hire more and more Negroes.

Their pocketbooks were no longer empty. Their stomachs were full. There was time and inclination to think with their heads, and to look about at what was happening.

What they saw was a trend away from the New Deal policies and programs to which they had been sold. MAY 22 1943

They saw the gradual lessening of the influence of the "black cabinet," and the usurpation of their advisory function by an appeasement-minded group of "white experts" on Negro affairs. Negro leaders were finding it increasingly difficult to get the ear of the President.

They saw agency administrators bowing and scraping to the race-baiting whims of the Southern bloc and many other things equally distasteful.

Roosevelt remains individually popular with the Negro, but only as the President and as an individual—not as head of the Democratic party, which is aligned and is following the philosophy of Congressmen Rankin (Miss.), Tarver (Ga.), Cox (Ga.), Peterson (Fla.), and Dies (Tex.).

The Negro feels the New Deal has lost the deal, and that, with permission, the Southern bloc is drawing cards off the bottom of the deck. MAY 22 1943

The reaction of the Negro voter, therefore, began setting in in 1942. He began deserting the New Deal and retracing his steps to the Republicans in Congressional, state and municipal elections.

But the Republicans are missing the boat. In a blindness of greed for power and an ignorance of the maturing political sagacity of the Negro, the Republicans have made a marriage of convenience with this same Southern bloc in order to fight Roosevelt. MAY 22 1943

They have made deals, at the expense of the Negro, in order to garner Southern bloc support to discredit the President on domestic issues. The price of any such cooperation by the Southern bloc is the arresting of the advance being made by Negroes.

Believing they are playing a shrewd game by staying out of the open, the Republicans are only fooling themselves by thinking the Negro is not seeing through their little game. MAY 22 1943

Their reluctance to stand up in Congress in support of the Negro's welfare shows they are riding on a false security of feeling they have regained the Negro balance of voting power. Their cause is not helped when Rep. Wigglesworth of Massachusetts says he thinks the race relations function in government is un-American and unnecessary. Nor is the Republican cause helped when 40 per cent of their members fail to sign a petition to bring the poll tax bill to a vote. Nor is it helped when the Republicans sit idly by in committee hearings or on the floor of the House and fail to rise in defense of racial attacks against their constituents. Nor does it help when they vote to support the Dies committee, which placed charges of subversive activities against a woman like Mary McLeod Bethune. Nor does it help when they kow-tow to the Farm Bureau Federation in helping to kill the Farm Security Administration, led by Dirksen of Illinois and Taber of New York. Nor does it help when their Senators fail and refuse to vote for cloture to shut off the filibuster of the Southern bloc against the poll tax and anti-lynching bills. MAY 22 1943

The Republicans' boat has just as many holes in it as the New Deal's —as a result of courting the same Southern bloc.

Macon, Ga., Telegraph
July 24, 1943

18-Year-Old Voters

Editor The Telegraph:

I have been asked to give one good reason why the voting age should not be reduced to 18. Here are six reasons that I believe to be valid:

[1] I oppose it because 18-year-old people are not grown in body, mind or experience.

[2] I oppose it because it runs counter to the judgment and experience of all past ages. As Soviet Russia began this experiment I think it is wise to wait and see the results there.

[3] I oppose it because it allows people to help settle the destiny of a state and nation who are not considered mature enough to sit on a jury to try a case where life, liberty or property are at stake, and who cannot be sued on a promissory note because of immaturity.

[4] I oppose it because statistics show that while we have many fine young people that criminals among them are increasing at the alarming rate of 52.7 per cent in the last two years. In that time the average age of those arrested has fallen from 19 to 18 years. Among the Negro youths crime has increased 48 per cent, but among the whites it has increased 55.4 per cent. Arrest of Negro girls for sex crimes has increased 32.7 per cent, while among the whites it has increased 72 per cent. The chief of our FBI, whose business it is to spy upon the criminal world, says: "As a nation we have failed to realize the seriousness in the increase of youthful crime since the outbreak of the war. Here is a problem that is approaching a national scandal."

[5] I oppose it because I believe the prnciiple upon which it is based is false in all its parts because the same reason would admit to the ballot box every plow boy who helps support the family and every girl who helps do the family washing.

[6] I oppose it because I believe it to be false in principal, wrong in practice and disastrous in consequences.

BASCOM ANTHONY.

Macon.

Birmingham, Ala., News
July 25, 1943

Willkie Outlines Ways To Eliminate Racial Discrimination In U. S.

Attitude Of Political Parties Toward Negro Vote Must Be Changed

NEW YORK — (AP) — Wendell L. Willkie, outlining seven essential steps which he said would help eliminate any racial discrimination in the United States, Saturday night told both major political parties that their "attitudes must be changed" in approaching the Negro vote.

Urging political and economic equality for Negroes, the 1940 Republican presidential candidate asserted that the two most pressing Negro problems today were inadequate housing and lack of political status.

During a special radio program called an "open letter on race hatred," which presented a dramatized version of the race disturbances in Detroit, Mich., last month, Willkie said:

"Our two major political parties have their separate ways of approaching the Negro vote. One has a tendency to ask the Negro for his vote as recompense for an act of simple justice done 80 years ago. The other retains political power by, in effect, depriving the Negro of his right to vote in one part of the country, while seeking his vote in another on the plea of great friendship for his race.

"Both attitudes must be changed. One party cannot go on feeling that it has no further obligation to the Negro citizen because Abraham Lincoln freed the slave. And the other is not entitled to power if it sanctions and practices one set of principles in Atlanta and another in Harlem.

"Our whole purpose today is, with our Allies, to defeat fascism. But all the forces of fascism are not with our enemies.

'Fascism is an attitude of mind, an attitude which causes men to seek to rule others by economic, military or political force, or through prejudice. Such an attitude within our own borders is as serious a threat to freedom as is the attack without. . . . It is essential that we eliminate it at home as well as abroad."

Asserting that "two-thirds of the people who are allied with us do not have white skins," Willkie declared that "race riots in Detroit, Los Angeles, and Beaumont, Tex., do not reassure them."

The seven essential rights Willkie said the Negro population was "entitled to—not as a matter of patronage or tolerance, but as a matter of right," included protection and justice under the law; per capita expenditure of public moneys for health and hospitalization; equal opportunities to acquire education; equal rights of employment, with equal compensation; elimination of all arbitrary restrictions on voting; and the right to fight in any branch of the armed forces.

In addition, he declared the Negroes' most pressing "human need . . . is adequate and decent housing."

"If this cannot be secured," he said, "through the operation of our private economy, it is an obligation that must be undertaken by government—preferably local, but, if necessary, federal."

"The situation," he asserted, which flared so tragically in Detroit has its counterpart—actual or potential—in many American cities. Such instances of mob-madness . . . are profound in their effect in this country and lasting in their impression throughout the world. . . . We must, therefore, seek the basic causes and find the ways for their elimination—practical, direct, positive ways.

Vote Strength Decreasing

Pittsburgh Courier

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 1— The voting strength of the Negro is decreasing, according to figures advanced by the Bureau of Census in a report on population released this week. The report reveals that Negroes comprise 8.8 per cent of the nation's total population of voting age during 1940. This figure is 0.1 per cent less than it was 10 years previously in spite of the fact that the total number of Negroes of voting age increased from 6,531,939 to 7,427,938, an increase of 13.7 per cent.

The decline in the proportion is accounted for by the fact that Negroes, 21 years old and over, increased less rapidly than the white population of corresponding age.

It was also revealed in the report that in the foreign born white population which includes a number of large national groups such as Germans, Italians and Russians there were more persons 21 years old and over than there were Negroes of corresponding ages. However, since there are few aliens among Negroes, the number of citizens of voting age exceeded the number of naturalized foreign-born whites.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

MR. WILLKIE'S LATEST

A group of Advertiser readers in Cullman write a joint letter to say that they are looking forward to the time when this newspaper will "give Willkie a shakedown on his speech over the radio the other evening." JUL 29 1943

It is a tempting subject. But, after all, what is gained by reiterating things upon which we are all agreed here in Alabama, and regarding which neither Mr. Willkie nor anyone else can change our minds even with a thousand radio speeches? JUL 29 1943

This Willkie speech with its unsound appeal for universal democracy and universal suffrage answers itself. An effort was made in reconstruction days to enforce universal suffrage, and the experiment was a complete failure. Suffrage is not a right to be granted universally, but a privilege to be granted to the deserving, and to those who have proved themselves capable of using it worthily. JUL 29 1943

Mr. Willkie has cut his political eyeteeth, and like all trained politicians is bidding for votes where votes are thickest and where they count most. His speech gained him none in Alabama, and may have lost a few of those he was already counting on. JUL 29 1943

Charleston, S. C., News-Courier
July 31, 1943

Stay Snug in Bag

Our Mr. Kent writes; "Then there is the negro vote. In eleven Northern and border states, in which the negro vote is large, the president in the last two elections has polled 90 per cent." Some of you South Carolinians, many of you, are at last finding out that you are in political alliance with a national negro party. Former Senator Byrnes discovered it as early as January 11, 1938, and announced his discovery on the senate floor in Washington, but you South Carolinians did not take him seriously! Not one of your leaders is denying that the national Democratic party, in which they predict that South Carolina will stay, is a negro party. It looks as if South Carolina might stay in a bag with the negroes of the "ghettos" of New York city, Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit, Philadelphia. Won't that be snug?

78.9% Of Negro Voters Support FDR Fourth Term

Defender
Chicago

NEW YORK—Negro voters are more solid in support of a fourth term for President Roosevelt than any other group in the nation, a survey conducted by Fortune magazine disclosed this week.

The study revealed that 78.9 per cent of all colored Americans favor reelection of Roosevelt if the war is still in progress. In white circles 61.2 per cent would vote for Roosevelt even if the war is over.

According to the survey, only Negroes would favor Roosevelt for reelection if the war is over. On the question of FDR's election if the war is still on, the percentage in favor divided according to economic groups was: High, 41.1; upper middle, 52.8; lower middle, 67.3; low, 74.5; and Negroes, 78.9.

If the war has ended, the answers were similarly divided with: high, 12.6; upper middle, 18.9; low, 47.1; and Negroes, 61.2.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

52e-1943

Time
Chicago, Illinois
Suffrage Jr.

"I'm glad Georgia is first in something at last. I'm tired of us always being at the tail end," chortled plump, bouncy Governor Ellis G. Arnall.*

A good many U.S. citizens, including Eleanor Roosevelt, had been arguing that if 18 is a soldiering age, it is also a voting age. Bills calling for the change were before 31 state legislatures, introduced in both the national House and Senate this year. But Georgia's Arnall, only 36 himself, made vote-at-18 something of a personal crusade.

In his tough campaign against hillbillyish Eugene Talmadge last year, no Arnall supporters were more effective than college students infuriated by the Talmadge purge of the State's universities. Too young to vote, they worked on their parents, hounded local political leaders, burned Gene Talmadge in effigy all over the State. Once elected, Arnall reciprocated by pushing an amendment to the State Constitution that would lower the voting age from 21 to 18, relieve the new voters of a $1 poll tax. (When they became 21, they would begin to pay it.)

Chief opposition came from Talmadge and his Vigilantes, the nightshirters and the "wool-hat boys" (small farmers) who hate everything connected with Arnall.

Last week, by a 2-to-1 majority, Georgia citizens voted the amendment into their Constitution, thus giving the vote not only to Seaman Cranford Jue to 85,000 girls, who cannot serve their country in the armed forces until they are 20.

Said Governor Arnall, announcing that the Georgia delegation would demand a vote-at-18 plan in the '44 Democratic platform: "[Young voters] will look to me for leadership. . . ." He had reason to boast: he had made thousands of Talmadge-hating youngsters a permanent part of the electorate.

* The Governor was a shade too self-conscious about his State. Among the 48 States, Georgia ranks eighth from the bottom in illiteracy, fourth from the bottom in wealth per capita, and second from the bottom in its lynching record. Outstanding Mississippi ranks third, first, first.

TIME, August 16, 1943

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Georgia Poses an Issue

It Has Dropped Voting Age to 18

By THOMAS L. STOKES,
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—Georgia has become the first state to lower the voting age from 21 to 18, a change widely agitated in the last two years as an outgrowth of the war which takes young men into the army at 18.

This may readily become a war, will loom increasingly to major issue nationally. For serve and be served in the fram- outh, which is serving in the ing of policy.

Georgia



Thos. L. Stokes.

both domestic and foreign, after the war.

Gov. Ellis G. Arnall of Georgia sponsored the voting age change. It became law with adoption of a constitutional amendment at Tuesday's election.

He announced immediately that he and the Georgia delegation at the Democratic National Convention next year will demand a plank in the platform advocating the lower voting age generally.

While proposed constitutional amendments were introduced in 31 Legislatures this last year for lowering the age to 18, only the one in Georgia has prevailed.

* * *

A proposed constitutional amendment was approved by both branches of the Wisconsin Legislature, but such amendments there must be approved by two successive legislatures before they can be submitted to the people for ratification. The Legislature does not meet again until 1945.

The New York Assembly approved a proposed constitutional amendment this year but the Senate failed to act. The Arkansas House approved a lowering of the age to 18 but it was defeated by the Senate. In four other states a lowering of the age was beaten—in Florida, Michigan, Minnesota and Utah.

A Gallup poll in Ar[illegible] is y showed 52 per cent op[illegible] to lower age, 42 per cent fa[illegible] and per cent undecided.

Lowering of the age from 21 to 18, it is estimated, would bring 7,000,000 additional voters. In Georgia it is estimated the change will cover 160,000 persons, but not all these can vote, for Negroes are excluded in the "white primary" where elections really are decided, and many poor whites and Negroes are disfranchised by the poll tax law.

* * *

Lowering of the age to vote in Georgia will mean that in next year's Presidential election many young people will vote who can't recall anybody as President but Franklin D. Roosevelt. It looks as if they will have a chance to vote for him.

Generally, it has been figured that youth leans toward the New Deal, some estimates being a 60-40 division, but the rapid changes during the war and the nature of problems arising out of the war might very well shift this balance.

The importance of young voters in the postwar period is not confined entirely to the soldier vote, which is now getting most emphasis, but includes also the youngsters just under soldier age who in the postwar period will be pushing upward for places in the economic system.

Various guarantees are being made to take care of the soldiers but there are no guarantees for the next age strata, and if the voting age should be lowered generally they will become an important political factor.

TEEN-AGE GEORGIAN WIN RIGHT TO VOTE

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Unofficial, but almost complete returns from Tuesday's general election indicated a better than three-to-one trend in the passage of all 28 constitutional amendments.

For the first time in history, Georgians, 18, 19 and 20 years of age, held a franchise to vote in state and national elections. Further these young men and women will not be compelled to pay poll taxes. The law applies to Negroes as well as whites.

In a jubilant statement over the apparent unanimity with which his "reforms" were ratified, Governor Arnall said he would press for lowering the voting age as a Democratic platform nationally in 1944.

Voting was light throughout the state, but the trend from the start was for passage of the amendments. County registrants estimated that less than 100,000 of approximately 425,000 qualified voters took the time to mark the lengthy ballot.

State counts Wednesday showed overwhelming vote for the Board of Regents for the University System, the State Board of Education, to limit the governor's pardoning power, teacher retirement and changing the legislative session.

Also okayed was local amendment No. 17 which clears the way to replace lowly Grady Hospital with a modern institution to serve Fulton and DeKalb counties and possibly other sections in the metropolitan area as soon as relaxation of war restrictions permit.

The proposal would "authorize the City of Atlanta, Fulton and DeKalb Counties to enter into contracts and assume liabilities or obligations thereunder pertaining to hospitalization of the indigent sick."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

LOWER POLL TAX PAYMENT AGE BOON TO GA. VOTERS

ATLANTA, Ga. (ANP) — Colored participation in voting is expected to increase as a result of the lowering of the voting age to 18 in the state and the ruling that voters under 21 years of age will not have to pay poll taxes.

Gov. Arnall Tells Youth To Register

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Governor Ellis Arnall Tuesday asked young men and women of the state, between the ages of 18

The Scramble Over The Teen-Agers

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

The people of Georgia have decided to let 18 year-olds vote. It appears that the contagion is about to spread to other parts of the Nation. Indications point to a scramble between Republicans and Democrats of Washington to capitalize upon this as a party achievement in 1944. But, the country will not be fooled by this move. Governor Arnall of Georgia, will of course, win the greatest credit for the achievement. Next to him, President Roosevelt, by his manifest loyalty to the youth of the Nation, will share that glory. There can be but small doubt that Congressional action will be taken to lower the voting age, in line with the action taken by the Georgia voters.

Georgia citizens, white and Negro, of course, need not sit back and await action from the national government. This is a privilege already granted to her youths. Just how far and to what extent they will make use of it we are not able to say. But this much is certain, Negro leaders nor Negro to youths cannot charge that they have not had the opportunity.

Attention has been called to [illegible] opportunity in a previous editorial. Whether any steps are being made to acquaint Negro youths with the responsibility resting upon them in such provisions. we cannot say. The legal department of the state has ruled that these youths will be exempt from payment of the Poll Tax until they have attained their majority, even though they vote from year to year. Negro leaders in their civic leagues and clubs throughout the Georgia communities will make a serious blunder if they fail to inaugurate at once, an intensive educational campaign to seek out the names of youths between the ages of 18 to 20 years, for the purpose of giving them specific instructions on the voting qualifications and responsibilities.

AUG 15 1943
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Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

NO POLL TAX IN THIS GEORGIA TOWN

VIDALIA, Ga., Aug. 26—(ANP)—This community prides itself on being the only one in the state where collection of poll taxes is not a prerequisite to becoming a qualified voter in municipal elections. The poll tax payment was dispensed with by an amendment to the city charter introduced by State Representative T. Ross Sharpe and passed by the general assembly this year.

Teen-Agers Will Ballot in '44 Without Having To Pay Tax

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

By HERMAN HANCOCK.

The three-to-one ratio for adoption of the constitutional amendment lowering the voting age to 18 in Georgia held yesterday as results from Tuesday's elec[illegible] continued to pour [illegible] were extending franchise rights to an estimated additional 165,000 persons between the ages of 18 and 21, the present voting age.

Governor Arnall and T. Grady Head, state attorney general, analyzed the measure, and the Governor contended other states of the union will follow the example set by Georgia in giving those old enough to fight the right to vote.

All a person, who has reached his 18th birthday, has to do to vote in the 1944 state primary is to register now, Head explained. He said no poll tax can be collected from new registrants until the legislature amends its present laws, which provide collection of $1 a year poll taxes from voters between the ages of 21 and 60.

[illegible]axes.

Even if the poll tax were in force, 1944 poll taxes are not collectable until late in the fall, and the state primary will be held early—before poll taxes are due.

No poll tax could be assessed and collected against the new voters untils the Georgia legislature meets. The next meeting will be held in January, 1945, unless a special session should be called.

Under the amendment, the new voters will enjoy all the franchise rights previously enjoyed by voters who paid their poll taxes, it was said. They can vote in municipal, county, state and federal elections, and that includes election of the President, senators and congressmen.

The new amendment, however, affects only franchise rights and will not change property, majority and any other laws now applying to minors, Head explained.

A specific provision of the bill, however, bars soldiers, sailors and Marines from acquiring the right to vote in Georgia by reason of being stationed within the state.

Amendment Text.

The exact language of the amendment dealing with this phase of the franchise says:

"Provided, that no soldier, sailor or Marine in the military or naval service shall acquire the rights of an elector by reason of being stationed on duty in this state."

Head was emphatic in his statement that the amendment applied solely to the franchise. Under his opinion it would not affect the right to [illegible] own property in their name, hold office, marry without restrictions.

At the present time, a Georgia law requires persons between the ages of 18 and 21 years old to have the written consent of their parents before marriage licenses are issued to them or to post a notice at the courthouse five days in advance of the issuance of the license.

There was considerable speculation as to whether or not a new move to amend fundamental laws might not begin in view of the success of the voting measure. And the youngsters will wield a big stick in legislative elections because there are about 165,000 of them qualified to vote for legislators, and the present registration carries only 425,000 voters for the whole state.

Further Privileges.

Arnall said he is not interested in extending further privileges to teen-agers.

When the legislature tackles the poll tax issue, it is confidently expected that a new drive to eliminate poll taxes as a prerequisite for voting will be attempted, according to capital reports yesterday.

The legislature could revise poll tax ages to include the new voters. It could leave the law as it is now and not charge the new voters a poll tax. It could remove poll taxes altogether. It could extend poll tax [illegible] 18 years to the life of the individual, abolishing the exemption for those now over 60.

Arnall asserted he believes the lower voting age will have a wholesome effect and stimulate voting in Georgia elections. He said when youngsters vote, older persons will take more interest in their government.

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

18-Year-Olds Can Vote Free, Is Head Ruling

In two opinions announced yesterday, Attorney General T. Grady Head ruled that:

1. A condemned person does not have to be present to be re-sentenced to die, and

2. Youths between the ages of 18 and 21 may vote without paying poll taxes.

While it is unconstitutional for a person to be sentenced to die without being in court, a judge may fix a new death date for a person already under the death sentence, without this person being present, Head said.

One Sentence Sufficient.

"Our courts have held that one sentence is all that is ever imposed in a capital case," he pointed out. "Such sentence is to be executed at the time fixed therein, or at such other time as the judge shall fix thereafter."

His ruling was given in a letter to Warden H. R. DuVall, Georgia state prison at Reidsville, in reference to the right to execute Eugene Pitman, Negro. Pitman was sentenced to be electrocuted April 16, 1943 for murdering another Negro, but was granted a respite by Governor Arnall.

Then, without bringing Pitman back to Polk county superior court for [illegible]ing, Judge W. W. [illegible]dy notified the warden that the new electrocution date had been set for August 16, 1943. Warden DuVall asked the attorney general whether the trial judge could resentence a prisoner to electrocution when the prisoner is not before the court at the time.

18-21 Year Old Voting.

Head's ruling on the 18-year-old free vote was included in a letter to Secretary of State John B. Wilson, in reference to a request from John D. Collins, tax collector of Cobb county.

"It is my opinion that all tax collectors and tax commissioners should open their books now for the registration of persons between the ages of 18 and 21, and that no poll taxes can be demanded of this class of electors under the age of 21 until the laws of this state with reference to the levy and collection of poll taxes are amended," he said.

Head pointed out, however, that he was not issuing an opinion in this instance as to the right of such persons to vote in other than state elections. He said this question was not involved with the right of such persons to register with the tax collectors and tax commissioners at this time.

52e-1943

Indiana

Race Voting Power Gives Ludlow Change Of Heart

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — A striking example of the political potentialities of the Negro vote, intelligently and unitedly asserted, came to light here last week.

Its emulation throughout the country where the power of the ballot is available would make a different story in the halls of Congress when the welfare of Negroes is under consideration or attack.

Rep. Louis Ludlow (D) of Indiana, was one of the three Democrats who sided with Rep. John Taber and the Republicans in the House Appropriation Committee to kill the National Youth Administration after Taber's race-baiting remarks. The vote against the NYA was 17-16. Ludlow's vote, cast the other way, would have brought a favorable report out of the Appropriations committee, and would no doubt have saved the NYA, which has now been voted out of existence by both the House and Senate.

As a result of Ludlow's vote, he was swamped with telegrams, postcards and letters from Negroes among his constituents in Indianapolis, protesting his action. So voluminous was his mail, that he is known to have remarked: "I'm afraid I've defeated myself."

JUL 19 1943

JUL 19 1943

Reverses Self

Last week, when the NYA was again before the House as result of the Senate effort to restore the agency, Ludlow made a speech in which he reversed himself. "My first impression," he said, "was that the time had come when the NYA and all of its works should be liquidated and closed out. I was thinking of the old NYA as we knew it was a relief agency. The old NYA has already been liquidated and in its place we have the NYA training program which is now in the very midst of training thousands upon thousands of persons for work in war plants and essential industries...To attempt now to transfer the NYA trainees to other training activities would hold up and dislocate the entire training program."

On the final vote which killed the NYA in the House, Ludlow voted to retain the agency — but Rome had already burned by that time.

In his address, Rep. Ludlow quoted parts of a letter of protest written him by John Sengstacke, president of Negro Newspaper Publishers Association and general manager of the Chicago Defender.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

52e-1943
World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Jeffries Returned As Mayor of Detroit

By the United Press.

DETROIT, Nov. 3.—Mayor Edward J. Jeffries, Jr., coasted to a third term as Detroit's chief executive today, defeating Circuit Court Commissioner Frank Fitzgerald in yesterday's nonpartisan Mayoralty election by approximately 30,000 votes.

Unofficial returns from all the city's 1057 precincts gave Jeffries 207,799 votes, Fitzgerald 175,817.

Mr. Fitzgerald was supported by CIO and AFL unions, the Wayne County (Detroit) Democratic organization and Negro groups dissatisfied with the Mayor's handling of the June race riot.

But these votes failed to offset Mr. Jeffries' strength. The Mayor trailed by as many as 20,000 votes during the early tabulations, but finally caught and surged ahead of Mr. Fitzgerald when returns came in from the city's outlying residential areas.

No More Herding the Negro Vote

The way Detroit Negroes lined up with labor in the city election is notice to both great parties that at long last they are taking their politics like other Americans. Negroes' habit has been to vote AGAINST enemies, not to vote FOR benefits. As a result, they have pulled chestnuts out of the fire for whoever played upon their weakness.

Looking back, it is sickening to recall how many times the campaign speech made to Negroes consisted of a brief mention of the "Janitor we gave you in the Court house" and long abusive harangues about "your enemies." This "bloody shirt" type of campaigning was illogical and profitless. All the while we bought our food and all else in the same market as other Americans who used politics to better their condition, we were giving our votes in exchange for empty words.

Even when the Republican party, beginning with McKinley and continuing on down to Herbert Hoover, by making overtures to the South, gave notice to us that it no longer considered us its wards, we were too much in the habit of voting our sentiment to take such a position on tariff, taxes, and other national issues as served us. At the same time the South wedded to its hate, continued to be a one-party section. The Bilbos wanted it that way, because it made public office and power possible for them. Abler southerners, like the Underwoods and Rayburns, had no urge to bring about a reform, the evil system, like a wall, being maintained on the one side by dumb whites and on the other by dumb blacks.

The shift of Negro votes in Detroit from the candidate they supported previously, and their allignment with voters with whom they are associated in employment and in interest shows that at long last they mean to make politics serve them as it does others. Public opinion is shifting away from the administration, Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Democratic party in the peace days to come, will get no "Jesus saves me, Roosevelt feeds me" support.

Until Wendell Willkie raised his voice for a square deal for the Negro citizen, a position he took in 1940 and repeats on occasion now, the Republican party had been dealing with the Negro like one does a child. A brief paragraph in the party platform which never produced any tangible results was the all-day sucker which kept us docile. The party gave advantages to others but for us it had its "colored division" and money, and none to speak of. Even manufacturers with full knowledge that our votes have been part of Republican might, have not shared employment with us, using all manner of excuses to justify their refusal.

In the election to come, free enterprise, upon which business depends for its very existence, is going to be an issue. Negroes' vote in Detroit, if a straw that shows which way the wind blows, means a new day in American life for them when they will act like men who "know their rights, and knowing dare maintain."

52e-1943

Mississippi Negro Is Not In Politics

Memphis Commercial Appeal
June 13, 1943

Injection Of Race Issue In Campaign Deplored

To The Commercial Appeal:

These are critical times when many are confused about what lies over the hill ahead of us with respect to the future functions of our economic, political and social institutions which always have been accepted as a matter of course in bygone years. The stress and strain of this desperate struggle for survival make it extremely paramount for every loyal individual to do everything in his power to boost national morale that there may be no impediment to the triumph of the democratic way of life all over the world so that men everywhere may receive a modicum of justice, and that all isms may perish from the earth forever and eternally.

However, in our effort to cope with these problems on the foreign-and-home-fronts, we cannot afford to lose perspective and "call evil good and good evil, put darkness for light and light for darkness," lest we be guilty of the same unethical practices we seek to destroy that men may enjoy fuller freedom.

In the midst of this turmoil, Mississippians are campaigning for the approaching election of their governor, and it is with regret that some of the candidates have embraced the race issue as a part of their platform. Inasmuch as the Mississippi negro is not in politics and has no voice in the government, negroes in the state had been hoping that candidates would let this bugbear die a natural death because it is not only detrimental to our government in this emergency but most destructive and detrimental to the best interests of all concerned. It is crippling to right relations and merely serves to widen the breach between the races.

Within the next few days, I myself shall have the supreme honor to bear arms in defense of my country, and I and thousands of other young men like me shall hope that our lives are being expended for a fair and just cause for men of every race everywhere. We shall hope to see the day when hate, selfishness, revenge, poor sportsmanship, suppression and oppression are no longer perpetrated against our people by those whose very lives we have so willingly volunteered to defend with our own. We shall hope for the day of improved democracy which calls for understanding, fair play, "intelligence, character and moral responsibility inside the citizen."

A. A. ABRAHAM,
Alcorn, Miss.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

AUG 10 1943

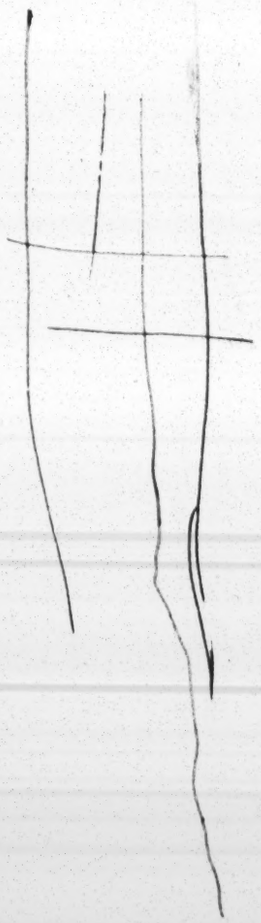
MINORITY NOMINEES

Mississippi's million adults cast about 190,000 votes in the Democratic primary for governor Tuesday, estimated returns from half the precincts indicated interest centered on whether Lt. Gov. Dennis Murphree or former House Speaker Thomas L. Bailey would contest the nomination with former Gov. Martin Conner in a run-off primary Aug. 24. Mr. Conner received approximately 38 per cent of the votes.

Washington took great interest in the Mississippi race, according to The Atlanta Journal's bureau, a clear-cut victory for Conner indicating to Washington observers an anti-Roosevelt delegation from that state in 1944. According to Kentucky standards, however, the interest in Mississippi was at least as detached as in the national capital, not sufficient to overcome reluctance to paying the poll tax. The poll tax must have been to blame, for Georgia voted at the same time on 28 constitutional amendments and enfranchised 160,000 youths of 18, 19 and 20, in a total vote which scarcely exceeded this increase in the electorate. Yet Georgia has a larger population than Kentucky and Mississippi probably as many Democrats as are registered in this state.

AUG 10 1943

Primary returns in poll-tax states are of particular interest because their excuse for a small turnout at general elections is that they are one-party states and the Democratic nominations are conclusive; the succeeding election only a formality. Nevertheless, Mississippians didn't cast half as many votes Tuesday as Kentucky Democrats did in their last state primary. —Louisville Courier-Journal.



Mississippi

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

An Editorial

NEW YORK

Every Negro voter in Brooklyn should go to the polls on Tuesday and cast their votes for the candidates of their choice. From present indications, it looks as though the borough's 115,000 Negro inhabitants will be well represented judging by the amazing registration for a so-called off-year.

However, it is vitally important that we know what to do when we close ourselves in the voting booths. The days are long past when we just pull down the levers to say that we voted. We must know before we enter that booth just who are to receive our votes. We must remember those who have aided our race and support them; likewise we must also remember those who have failed in their promises and refrain from giving them our support.

Perhaps our revoking of certain candidates may stop that particular one from being elected, but it will definitely indicate that "Uncle Tomism" is a thing long gone in our neck of the woods.

So on Tuesday go to the polls and cast your votes for those candidates whom you honestly believe will be an asset to the Negroes of Brooklyn.

Naturally we urge all to support Norman B. Johnson, only Negro councilmanic candidate. He has proved that he is a fighter and that he is thoroughly familiar with the problems that are confronting us. You will be doing a great service to the community if you mark a "No. 1" before his name on the Councilmanic paper ballot next Tuesday.

REGISTER AND VOTE!

BECAUSE of the Jewish holy days and because of the war, registration in New York City was started Monday and Tuesday evenings, and continues October 2, 4, and 5 from 5 to 10:30 p.m., and concludes October 6 when polls are open from 7 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. It is important that all persons who want to vote in November do so at this time because no one can vote in November without first having registered.

The privilege of voting in New York is a rare privilege, and yet despite the fact that there are no restrictions because of race, or sex there are too few Negroes who avail themselves of this privilege. While many of our friends in the South are clamoring for the right to vote, and while many of us are signing petitions to Congress to pass the anti-poll tax bill, there are too many Negroes living right here in New York City who do not vote.

No one has a right to complain about anything that government either local, state or national, does if he is not a part of that government. Mere residence in a city does not in itself constitute citizenship. Voting and taking an active part in community, civic and political affairs does. The people are the government and what the people chose is what they get.

Locally. and to Negroes, the election is important for two reasons. In the first place, a Negro, Justice Francis E. Rivers, is running as candidate of the Republican and American Labor parties for City Court Judge to succeed himself in the post to which he was appointed two weeks ago by Governor Thomas E. Dewey to fill the vacancy until December 31, 1943 caused by the death of Judge James C. Madigan. The Democrats have named a white candidate, former Collector of Internal Revenue Joseph T. Higgins. Mr. Higgins is a fine candidate and is acceptable in every sense except that Negroes want to retain the gain which the race made through the elevation of Mr. Rivers to the bench.

In the second place, the election is important locally because it will mark the effort of Negroes to maintain the representation that was gained for the first time in the City Council under the proportional representation system of voting two years ago with election of Rev. Adam C. Powell. Jr. Councilman Powell has refused to stand for reelection because he has his eyes on another election a year hence There are three Negroes seeking election in Manhattan and one in Brooklyn. With a coordinated campaign in Manhattan it is possible for one Negro candidate to be elected IF enough Negroes register and vote. With an intensive campaign in Brooklyn it is possible for the lone Negro candidate to be elected IF enough Negroes in Brooklyn register and vote as a solid unit.

It is possible for Judge Rivers to be reelected IF every Negro who is eligible to vote qualifies by registering and votes for him. We have it within our power to maintain and consolidate the gains we have made politically. We also have it within our power to show our weakness by failing to stick together. We prefer to believe that Negroes, conscious as never before of the importance of their citizenship, will flock to the polls this week and next and register in unprecedented large numbers.

Just as bullets are important to defeat the enemy abroad, so is the ballot important to defeat the enemy at home. REGISTER AND VOTE!

52e-1943
Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Gov. Bricker Adds 3 Race Men To Staff

JAN 16 1943

Ohio Executive Takes Oath For The Third Term

COLMUBUS, Ohio — Contemplating putting into effect a program during his next administration that will be of vital interest to Negro citizens of the state, Governor Brickers has added three representative members of the race to his staff.

These men are Dr. David Tearpeau of Cincinnati; the Rev. Sandy F. Ray of Columbus, and Attorney Chester Gillespie of Cleveland.

A matter which is of deep concern to Negroes that will have the attention of Governor Brickers who was sworn in for the third successive term on the night of January 11, is the welfare department which is responsible for 37,000 wards of the state, 9.5 per cent of whom are colored in the state hospitals and 4.0 per cent in the feeble minded institutions.

CROWDED CONDITIONS

These inmates are suffering from unreasonable crowded conditions and measures will be sought looking toward alleviating this condition. Additional compensation to meet the increased cost of food and fuel also will be sought.

JAN 16 1943

Governor Brickers has also included in his proposals that the administration increase state employees pay for those in the lower income group. This will affect some of the 2,600 Negro employees of the state as about 40 per cent will fall in the pay raise which he proposes.

Judge Fines Election Board Members $650

AUG 14 1943

Tribune

Philadelphia, Pa.

Five election officials in the 17th division of the 47th Ward drew fines totalling $650 on Tuesday in Judge Frank Smith's court, for frauds in the 1941 general election.

AUG 14 1943

Reuben Denker (white), committeeman, and James Brooks, judge of elections, of Beechwood street near Jefferson, were each fined $250, payable in ten months, and placed on a year's probation.

AUG 14 1943

Arnetta Sinkfield, 22nd st., near Jefferson, and Lena Oles, Beechwood street near Oxford, clerks of the election board, were each fined $25 and also placed on probation for a year.

AUG 14 1943

Testimony showed that 20 more votes were counted than were cast.

52e-1943

Bay State Congressmen Learn People Want Poll Tax Abolished

MAY 2 1943

(Special to The Worker)

BOSTON.—Massachusetts representatives to Congress are beginning to feel the pressure of their constituents for the passage of the Anti-Poll-Tax Bill. So far six of the fourteen Congressmen have signed the discharge petition to force the bill out of committee, and on to the floor of the House for a vote.

The following Representatives reported that they had signed and pledged to work for the passage of the bill:

Thomas J. Lane, Christian A. Herter, Angier L. Goodwin, Edith Nourse Rogers, and Philip J. Philbin. MAY 2 1943

"I am glad to assure you that I have long since signed the discharge Petition No. 3 and that I am anxious to secure quick passage of H.R. 7, the Anti-Poll-Tax Bill," Rep. Lane said. MAY 2 1943

"You may be assured of my continued active part to complete the passage of this legislation, and may I express my appreciation to your newspaper for its active interest in accomplishing that end."

Congressman Wigglesworth writes that as a general practice he does not sign discharge petitions but that he will look into the question. The voters in his district will have to help him look into it by sending more letters, telegrams and post cards. MAY 2 1943

In reply to a letter Congressman James M. Curley's secretary said she would call the matter to the attention of the Congressman, "for such action as he may deem advisable." MAY 2 1943

The passage of the Anti-Poll-Tax bill is recognized by the people of Massachusetts as a key question in the winning of the war. In Western Massachusetts a "Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax" has been established with the Mayor of Springfield acting as honorary chairman. This Committee is working to collect 20,000 signatures on a petition asking their congressmen, Clason and Treadway, to sign the discharge petition and to work for the passage of the Anti-Poll-Tax Bill. It has been reported that Clason has signed. MAY 2 1943

A Greater Boston Anti-Poll-Tax Committee has circulated thousands of post cards and are planning a broad educational campaign on this vital issue.

The Boston Central Labor Union, A. F. of L. voted at its last meeting to add its weight to the pressure on the congressmen from this district.

The State Council of the CIO has circularized all locals to pass separate resolutions and to take other action to help in the campaign against the Poll-Tax.

The American Unitarian Association, with headquarters in Boston, has mobilized their membership behind the bill. MAY 2 1943

The State Legislature has memorialized Congress for the passage of adequate anti-poll-tax and anti-lynch legislation. MAY 2 1943

But in spite of this clear expression of the people's mandate, eight of the Massachusetts Representatives to Congress are still ducking the issue. The pressure must be increased. Every Congressman from Massachusetts must be forced to sign discharge petition No. .

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Tennessee Repeals Poll Tax; Victory For Negro

Feb. 6, 1943

By WILLIAM C. JASON, Jr.

The State of Tennessee has repealed the poll tax. The payment of this head tax will no longer be a condition precedent to voting in federal elections there.

By the action of this legislature the poll tax states have now been decreased to seven. This is a good cause for rejoicing.

First the poor citizens of Tennessee black and white are now going to have something to say about who represents them in Washington.

Poor Can Vote

Next the people all over the country who have suffered from Anti-labor, Anti-Negro and non democratic legislation—or the lack of it—are to witness another break in the ranks of their solid South supporters. These people can now look for more men like Senator Claud D. Pepper.

It may not be too much to hope that United States senatorial resistance to a national poll tax law is now cut from sixteen to fourteen opponents.

Tennessee by this act has sort of repudiated the philosophy of Tennessee Johnson. It has definitely placed itself on the record as no longer behind such antics as those invoked by its erstwhile son, President Johnson, during the Reconstruction Period. This act does not hold President Johnson up as being the right ideal for Americans to follow today.

Lasting Effect

Tennessee's action is bound to have a good and lasting effect on the Negros' fight for the extension of democracy throughout the entire nation. Over a period of time there will be chairmanships of congressional committees that by seniority will come to other than southern men. There will be a decrease then in the number of chairmen who with outmoded ideas as to the place of the Negro tenth of the population forcefully impressed those ideas in Federal legislation.

Mark Antonio, New York's forceful all-out friends of the Labour movement and a staunch supported of anti-poll tax and anti-lynching legislation, stated in a recent release that he was kept off the judiciary committee by the action of four senators, three of whom came from poll tax states.

One thing is certain that as the number of poll tax congressmen is decreased we shall have less of such ganging up on liberals and more genuine democracy for all the people. The day when there are no poll tax States cannot come too soon.

Roll 1

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Anti-Poll Tax Act Will Be Weighed

SEP 28 1943

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—(AP)—The Senate judiciary committee—made up exclusively of lawyers—voted today to sit somewhat as a court to hear arguments for and against the constitutionality of a House-approved anti-poll tax bill.

The decision to hold such a public hearing Oct. 25 postponed for at least 30 days the chance of a Senate filibuster similar to those which previously have effectively blocked passage of the measure, which would outlaw collection of the poll tax as a requirement for voting for Federal officials.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

List Names Of Signers Of Poll Tax Petition

MAY 29 1943

WASHINGTON — The signatures of House Petition Number Three, to discharge H.R. 7, the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill, and bring it to the floor for a vote, became public this week. MAY 29 1943

Eleven states were represented on the petition by the signatures of all their representatives.

From 15 other states, more than half the representatives signed, and from one state just half the representatives signed.

A total of 35 states were represented by Congressmen on the petition. MAY 29 1943

There were no signatures at all from representatives of 13 states, six of them free-voting, seven of them poll tax states.

A total of 129 Republicans signed the petition; 86 Democrats; 1 American Labor; 2 Progressives; 1 Farmer Labor.

The complete list by states follows: MAY 29 1943

ALABAMA (poll tax), none signed.
ARIZONA, none signed.
ARKANSAS, none signed.
CALIFORNIA, 14 out of 23 representatives signed: Harry L. Englebright, Richard J. Welch, Albert E. Carter, Cecil R. King, John Phillips, John H. Tolan, George E. Outland, Jerry Voorhis, Chet Holifield, Ed. V. Izac, Norris Poulson, Thomas F. Ford, Will Rogers Jr., Carl Hinshaw.
COLORADO, 1 out of 4 representatives signed: William S. Hill.
CONNECTICUT, 5 out of 6 representatives signed: B. J. Monkiewicz, William J. Miller, John D. McWilliams, Ranulf Compton, Clare Booth Luce.
DELAWARE, 1 out of 1 signed: Earl D. Willey.
FLORIDA, none signed.
GEORGIA (poll tax), none signed.
IDAHO, 2 out of 2 representatives signed: Compton I. White, Henry C. Dworshak.
ILLINOIS, 21 out of 26 representatives signed: William L. Dawson, William A. Rowan, Fred E. Busbey, Martin Gorski, Adolph J. Sabath, Thomas J. O'Brien, Leonard W. Schuetz, Thomas S. Gordon, Charles S. Dewey, Ralph E. Church, Leo E. Allen, Anton J. Johnson, Robert B. Chipperfield, Everett M. Dirksen, William H. Wheat, Sid Simpson, Evan Howell, Calvin D. Johnson, Charles W. Vursell, C. W. Bishop, Stephen A. Day.
INDIANA, 8 out of 11 representatives signed: Ray J. Madden, Robert A. Grant, George W. Gillie, Noble J. Johnson, Gerald W. Landis, Earl Wilson, Raymond S. Springer, Louis Ludlow.
IOWA, 4 out of 8 representatives signed: Paul Cunningham, Fred C. Gilchrist, Ben F. Jensen, Charles B. Hoeven.
KANSAS, 2 out of 6 representatives signed: William P. Lambertson, U. S. Guyer.
KENTUCKY, 1 out of 9 representatives signed: John M. Robsion.
LOUISIANA (poll tax), none signed.
MAINE, 1 out of 3 representatives signed: Margaret Chase Smith.
MARYLAND, 4 out of 13 representatives signed: Thomas D'Alesandro Jr., Daniel Ellison, Lansdale G. Sasscer, J. Glenn Beall.
MASSACHUSETTS, 9 out of 14 representatives signed: Charles R. Clason, Philip J. Philbin, Edith Nourse Rogers, George J. Bates, Thomas J. Lane, Angier L. Goodwin, Christian A. Herter, James M. Curley, Richard B. Wigglesworth.
MICHIGAN, 11 out of 17 representatives signed: George G. Sadowski, Paul W. Shafer, William W. Blackney, Jesse P. Wolcott, Albert J. Engel, Ray O. Woodruff, John B. Bennett, George D. O'Brien, Louis C. Rabaut, John D. Dingell, John Lesinski.
MINNESOTA, 6 out of 9 representatives signed: Richard P. Gale, Melvin J. Maas, Walter H. Judd, H. Carl Andersen, William A. Pittenger, Harold C. Hagen.
MISSISSIPPI (poll tax), none signed.
MISSOURI, 4 out of 13 signed: William C. Cole, Dewey Short, Louis E. Miller, Walter C. Ploeser.
MONTANA, 2 out of 2 representatives signed: Mike Mansfield, James F. O'Connor.
NEBRASKA, 4 out of 4 representatives signed: Carl T. Curtis, Howard H. Buffett, Karl Stefan, A. L. Miller.
NEVADA, 1 out of 1 representative signed: Maurice J. Sullivan.
NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1 out of 2 representatives signed: Foster Stearns.
NEW JERSEY, 8 out of 14 representatives signed: Charles A. Wolverton, Elmer H. Wene, James C. Auchincloss, D. Lane Powers, Gordon Canfield, Fred A. Hartley Jr., Mary T. Norton, Edward J. Hart.
NEW MEXICO, 2 out of 2 representatives signed: Clinton P. Anderson, Antonio M. Fernandez.
NEW YORK, 35 out of 45 representatives signed: Leonard W. Hall, William B. Barry, Joseph L. Pfeifer, Thomas H. Cullen, James J. Heffernan, Andred L. Somers, John J. Delaney, Donald L. O'Toole, Eugene J. Keogh, Emanuel Celler, James A. O'Leary, Samuel Dickstein, Louis J. Capozzoli, Arthur G. Klein, Thomas F. Burchill, James H. Fay, Joseph Clark Baldwin, Martin J. Kennedy, Sol Bloom, Vito Marcantonio, Joseph A. Gavagan, Walter A. Lynch, Charles A. Buckley, James M. Fitzpatrick, Hamilton Fish, William T. Byrne, Bernard W. Kearney, Edwin Arthur Hall, Joseph J. O'Brien, Walter G. Andrews, Joseph Mruk, John C. Butler, Dean P. Taylor, Matthew J. Merritt, Winifred C. Stanley.
NORTH CAROLINA, none signed.
NORTH DAKOTA, 2 out of 2 representatives signed: Usher L. Burdick, William Lemke.
OHIO, 19 out of 23 representatives signed: Charles H. Elston, William E. Hess, Harry P. Jeffrey, Edward O. McCowen, Clarence J. Brown, Homer A. Ramey, Thomas A. Jenkins, Walter E. Brehm, John M. Vorys, Ed Rowe, P. W. Griffiths, Henderson H. Carson, J. Harry McGregor, Earl R. Lewis, Michael J. Kirwan, Michael A. Feighan, Robert Crosser, Frances P. Bolton.
OKLAHOMA, none signed.
OREGON, 1 out of 4 representatives signed: Homer D. Angell.
PENNSYLVANIA, 25 out of 33 representatives signed: William I. Troutman, James Gallagher Sr., James P. McGranery, Michael J. Bradley, John Edward Sheridan, Francis J. Myers, Hugh D. Scott Jr., Charles L. Gerlach, J. Roland Kinzer, James A. Wright, John W. Murphy, Ivor D. Fenton, Daniel K. Hoch, Thomas E. Scanlon, J. William Ditter, Francis E. Walter, Chester H. Gross, James E. Van Zandt, J. Buell Snyder, Grant Furlong, Harve Tibbett, Augustine B. Kelley, Robert L. Rodgers, Samuel A. Weiss, Herman P. Eberharter.
RHODE ISLAND, 2 out of 2 representatives signed: Aime J. Forand, John E. Fogarty.
SOUTH CAROLINA (poll tax), none signed.
SOUTH DAKOTA, none signed.
TENNESSEE, 2 out of 10 signed: B. Carroll Reece, John Jennings Jr.
TEXAS (poll tax), none signed.
UTAH, 2 out of 2 signed: Walter K. Granger, J. W. Robinson.
VERMONT, 1 out of 1 representative signed: Charles A. Plumley.
VIRGINIA (poll tax), none signed.
WASHINGTON, 4 out of 6 representatives signed: Warren G. Magnuson, Henry M. Jackson, Fred Norman, John M. Coffee.
WEST VIRGINIA, 4 out of 6 representatives signed: Andrew C. Schiffler, Jennings Randolph, John Kee, Joe L. Smith.
WISCONSIN, 7 out of 10 representatives signed: Lawrence H. Smith, Harry Sauthoff, Howard J. McMurray, Frank B. Keefe, Reid F. Murray, Merlin Hull, Alvin E. O'Konski.
WYOMING, 1 out of 1 representative signed: Frank A. Barrett.

JUL 2 1943

Congressman Emanuel Celler tolcintent to [illegible] that [illegible] increase(seven poll-tax states as against [illegible] pressure [illegible] the [illegible] front ormore than six million ballots in [illegible]

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Rally Press Poll-Tax Fight

Celler Urges

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

ROGERS SAYS:

Poll Tax Oppressors Are Doomed; If Not in This War, Then the Next

BY J. A. ROGERS

EVANS JONES, white sailor, who got up in the galleries of Congress last week during the poll tax debate and told the members that though a great war was going on they were still fighting the Civil war, was sent off to a hospital for examination. This was most appropriate. Anyone who would get up in a place where so much has been done, and is being done, to take the rights of the people and give them to a few, deserves to have his head examined.

Sailor Jones had fought at Singapore and had just returned from Guadalcanal. Unlike most of us who crawl into comfortable beds at night and still get irritated over the same trifles we did before the war, Sailor Jones had been dodging Japanese bombs and bullets, sleeping in fox—holes, eating hardtack, instead of filet-mignon, and seeing dead and maimed Americans around him. This had brought him up to 1943 and what the war was about. However, had he been reading the Congressional Record, he'd have known he was just 50 years ahead, especially where most of the Southern Congressmen are concerned. They really don't know what it's all about yet.



Mr. Rogers

BUT wait a bit, Sailor Jones. If you think what you heard in the House was ante-bellum, wait until this bill comes up in the Senate. Then you will be taken back to before the Revolutionary War and the good old slave days of George III. Wait until Messrs. Bilbo, Connally, Ellender, Cotton-Ed Smith, et al, begin to discourse on the "God-given rights of the white man over the black."

SHE LEARNED, BUT IT TOOK AN EARTHQUAKE

What these poll tax legislators need to bring them up to 1943 is just one Nazi or Japanese bomb to drop near them. In the scramble to save themselves they'll realize, at least for the moment, that their fight against the Negro has really been backwash stuff.

I HAVE told this story before, but it will bear re-telling. A friend of mine who lived in San Francisco told me that he had as a neighbor, a white woman who was very prejudiced. Then came the great earthquake, destroying and killing, and reducing whites and blacks to the same level of misery and suffering. The morning after, my friend said, he found himself in the breadline and right behind him was his prejudiced white neighbor. Haggard and woe-begone, she said to him in a voice full of penitence, "We are all one now." "Yes," said my friend, "and it took an earthquake to make you know this simple truth."

DIXIE OPPRESSION WILL END IN WAR

You can bet that RAF bombs dropping about the ears of Germany are taking the conceit out of them and waking them up to the lying promises that Hitler made them.

TO the oppressors of mankind, the earthquakes and the bombs come sooner or later. It will surely come to the South—if not in this war, in the next. Thomas Jefferson foresaw that slavery was going to bring a great calamity on this nation and wrote: "I tremble for my country when I remember that God is just." He did his best to abolish it, but the slave-holders and other robbers of labor were certain—just like the average criminal—that they would get away with wrong-doing. Oppressors always do. The Bourbons of the South assure themselves that Jim Crow will always go on. Hitler, too, was positive that robber's luck would always be with him. Continued oppression of the Negro and the poorer whites in the South can end in but one way; Bloody revolution.

CONTROL FORTUNE OF NATION

The poll tax is such a perversion of American government that to find a parallel, we must go to Nazi Germany. Seven States—all of them in the most backward and illiterate part of this nation—have arrogated to themselves the privilege of who must vote, not only in their respective States, but in elections affecting the whole nation, as for President, Senator and Congressman. Thus these backward States have been able to send men to Congress and keep them there until by seniority, they get control of the most important committees, from which they dictate the policies of the whole nation.

CERTAIN of the heads of these committees, like Cotton-Ed Smith, ought to be in a home for the senile aged. Remember, it was this antediluvian who walked out of the Democratic National convention a few years ago because a Negro—and a highly-educated one at that, Rev. Marshall L. Shepard, Pennsylvania State Representative—was called on to open the convention with prayer.

DISFRANCHISEMENT WON FOR WILSON

Negroes are usually mentioned as being the chief sufferers from the poll tax, but this is far from being so. The poll tax legislators as well as those from other States in which Negroes are disfranchised, by their ability to perpetuate themselves in office, poison the whole stream of national legislation.

FOR instance, but for Negro disfranchisement in the South, Woodrow Wilson would never have been elected to office with his false promise of keeping us out of war. Negroes, then, were strongly Republican and anti-Democratic. Had Wilson not led us into the war, the European nations would have fought it out among themselves and would have been so exhausted they wouldn't have been able to start up another world war so soon. Had America kept out of the first World War, she might never have become embroiled in this one. Thus injustice to the Negro has had the most tremendous repercussions for evil to all America.

All honor to Congressman Vito Marcantonio, who labored to bring this bill up again after the Senate filibuster of last year. He is one of our few legislators who is actually living in 1943, and have the courage to attack injustice without gloves on. Call him a Communist if you will, Martin Dies, but to me he is one of the most patriotic of Americans.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Mrs. FDR Advocates Repeal Of Poll Taxes

NEW YORK—(S N S)—Speaking here at the inauguration of the second annual city-wide Harlem week observance Sunday night, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt advocated repeal of all poll taxes as "a good thing" not only "for the colored people, but for all people."

To her audience of colored and white citizens, she said questions of race prejudice would have to be faced by the nation after the war and "the patterns we set here will build foundations for the future."

She suggested that "there should not be German communities, Scandinavian communities of the foreign-born" in this country, but there should "just be American communities."

Mrs. Roosevelt said that whenever she speaks on race prejudice she receives letters calling her "Enemy No. 1," and declared that persons writing the letters accuse her of stirring up the problem which, if let alone, would be solved by individuals.

IT MAY BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED THAT THE House of Representatives will vote to abolish the poll tax in elections for federal office. A substantial majority of both houses favors abolition, and the move can be defeated only by a filibuster. Since this device for imposing the will of the few on a helpless majority is forbidden in the lower house, champions of the poll tax are already turning for salvation to the Senate, which came to their rescue last year. Representative Hobbs of Alabama calls the abolition bill an invitation to Congress to "forget its oath of office" and hints darkly that it might prevent the Senate from "functioning for a long period of time." "Blackmail" is the word for this delicate approach to legislation. A country that tolerates no work stoppages in industry should make matters uncomfortable for political strikers who would paralyze the Senate of the United States in war time.

Anti-Poll Tax Group To Meet in Capital

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—Mrs. Katherine Shryver, executive secretary of the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, announced today that an emergency executive conference to discuss immediate action to intensify the fight to win cloture votes in the Senate will be held Wednesday morning, Dec. 8 at the YWCA, 17th [illegible] Sts., N.W., Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Shryver said that 125 delegates from most of the states east of the Mississippi are expected to attend and that more than 50 will represent groups in the poll tax states.

THE ANTI-POLL TAX FIGHT

Enlightened organized Labor, liberals and colored Americans are again pressing the fight for the abolition of payment of poll taxes as a qualification for exercising the right to vote in several States of the Deep South.

Representative Marcantonio, of New York City, lone spokesman of the American Labor party in Congress, has his anti-poll tax bill (H. R. 7) still buried in the House Judiciary committee, whose chairman is that red light on the road to progress—Hatton Sumners of Texas.

A petition to bring this bill out of the Judiciary mausoleum requires 218 signatures of representatives; and less than 90 signatures are now needed, thanks to the support of the bill by the above-mentioned interests.

Every individual and organization that believes in democracy and wants to see it function will urge their representatives in Congress to support the Marcantonio measure.

So long as Americans are prevented from having a voice in their government because of economic status, trickery or terror, we are in no position to criticize the dictatorships.

Doing away with the poll tax is not an effort to benefit colored Americans but ALL Americans, since almost as many white as colored citizens are kept from the poles by it.

One of the many reasons why the South is behind the rest of the country is its government, which, in most instances, is by the few—plantation owners, merchants, bankers and public utility magnates who support the various little tight political machines for selfish reasons.

The hereditary politicians who control these machines and the jobs they create are re-elected year after year by a small minority of the electorate with money and influence enough to vote, and a selfish personal interest in voting.

The masses of citizens—colored and white—have nothing to do with this government, and since they are invariably the poorest people, the governments of all the poll-tax States are not only the creatures of the well-to-do, but are impervious to any real reform.

Even worse, where there are so few voters, it is a simple matter to send reactionary Representatives and Senators to Washington term after term with far less difficulty than similar politicians have outside the South and with far less cost to the well-to-do who finance their campaigns.

In Washington, these politicians easily acquire seniority and come to obtain the chairmanships of important committees shaping national policies, such as the Judiciary committee of the House of Representatives.

Thus abolition of the poll tax will not only benefit the South by increasing the electorate, but will benefit the nation by eliminating a reactionary political enclave detrimental to national progress.

For this reason the Marcantonio measure deserves the support of Congressmen from the North, East and West, as well as the few from the South who desire to serve the best interests of that section.

Daily Poll Tax Amendment

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15—(AP)—The senate judiciary committee rejected 9 to 8 today a resolution by Senator O'Mahoney (Democrat, Wyoming) calling for a constitutional amendment to prohibit the collection of a poll tax as a qualification for voting for federal officers.

O'Mahoney said he would offer the resolution again at the committee's next meeting Monday in the belief that "it eventually will carry."

The committee previously approved a bill to prohibit the collection of such taxes.

However, O'Mahoney declared, "The constitutionality of this bill is seriously questioned and the only sure way to outlaw this tax is the constitutional way."

52e-1943
The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Amter Urges Congressmen Kill Poll Tax

MAY 19 1943

MAY 19 1943

Israel Amter, New York State chairman of the Communist Party, yesterday sent letters calling on all New York Congressmen to vote for the anti-poll tax bill when it comes before the House May 24 or 25.



Israel Amter

"At a time when our boys are fighting on every corner of the globe to defend democracy against Nazi aggression, we should no longer permit an impairment of democracy which disfranchises 10,000,000 Americans—6,000,000 whites and 4,000,000 Negroes," Amter wrote.

"On behalf of my organization, I urge that you make it your business to be on the floor at all times during the debate on May 24 and 25 and vote for H.R. 7 without amendments."

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The anti-poll tax bill goes to the floor of the House on May 24 or 25. It is supported by a coalition of Republicans, Democrats adn the one Laborite representative.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Poll Tax Repeal Act Held Invalid

MAY 8 1943

Tennessee Jurist Rules Out State Act

MAY 8 1943

BENTON, TENN., May 7.—(AP)—Repeal of Tennessee's half-century-old poll tax by the 1943 General Assembly was declared unconstitutional today in an opinion by Chancellor T. L. Stewart in Polk County chancery court.

The opinion also declared unconstitutional the companion act setting up a permanent system for Statewide registration of voters.

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The chancellor held that the repeal act was in conflict with sections of the State constitution imposing the tax and making it a prerequisite to voting in State elections.

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The registration act was declared in conflict with a section of the constitution fixing qualifications for voters. It also was stated that a section of the registration act created an improper classification of voters by allowing some to vote without being registered and that it also could not stand because its validity rested upon that of the poll tax repealer.

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The opinion upheld contentions in the suit brought by Sheriff Birch Biggs, of Polk County, and other opponents of poll tax repeal and overruled a demurrer filed on behalf of the State by Atty. Gen. Roy Beeler. Thirty days was allowed the State to file an appeal and previous statements of the attorney general that the issue would be tested in the State Supreme Court indicated that this would be done.

State House Briefs

POLL TAX MOVE ASKED

Columbia, April 14.—(AP): Frederick H. Demond and I. S. Leevy, both of Columbia, asserting they represented the Southern Interracial Conference, have asked the house judiciary committee to introduce legislation to abolish the poll tax as a prerequisite for voting in South Carolina.

Chairman Calhoun Thomas, of the committee, said the committee had received the request but had told the men that in view of anticipated adjournment Saturday, there was no time for such legislation, and that two-thirds of the committee would have to agree to such a bill before it would become a committee measure.

The two men asked that the legislation not abolish the tax but just abolish its payment as a voting requisite.

Poll Tax Bill Ires Southern Congressmen

By EDWARD V. ROBERTS

Washington, May 7—(IP)—Southern Democrats, forming their lines for a battle against abolition of the poll tax in seven states, hinted today that their strategy would include a threat to take the solid South out of the Democratic Party.

"The South is tired of getting kicked around," one Southern Congressman said. "If they shove this down our throats, it's time we pulled out."

He declined to be quoted but said, "many of us feel that way."

Southern tempers flared with the announcement that a coalition of Northern sponsors of antipoll tax bills had succeeded in obtaining the signatures of a majority of the House membership on a petition which will bring a measure outlawing the poll tax in federal elections and primaries before the House May 24.

Rep. Eugene Cox (Dem., Ga.) said the move was "purely political—a gesture to gain Negro support for the sponsors."

Rep. John Rankin (Dem., Miss.) charged that pressure was brought on members by "a certain organization which is said to be teaming with Japanese fifth columnists."

Rankin and other Southerners protested that raising the poll tax issue at this time would "destroy our unity during a war crisis."

However, Rep. George Bender (Rep., O.), who served as chairman of the petition steering committee, declared that passage of the bill would be "evidence to our Allies that America is fighting for democracy and freedom."

The petition will bring to the floor a bill introduced January 6, 1942, by Rep. Vito Marcantonio, American Laborite, New York.

"However, it's really a coalition bill," Marcantonio said.

It is similar to one introduced by the late Rep. Lee Guyer (Dem., Calif.) and passed by the House last October by a two-to-one majority, only to die in the Senate after a determined Southern filibuster led by Sen. Tom Connally (Dem., Texas).

Marcantonio admitted his bill would not enable Negroes to vote in primaries in some Southern states that are designated as 'white" primaries.

Only seven states—Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, Georgia, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia—still require payment of a poll tax as a prerequisite to voting. These states have a total of 73 votes in the House.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

ANTI-POLL TAX BILL PASSED BY HOUSE, 265-110

MAY 26 1943

Visiting Sailor Tries to Join Debate.

MAY 26 1943

BY WILLIAM MOORE.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Washington, D. C., May 25.—The house voted 265 to 110 to abolish the southern poll tax today after hours of bitter debate marked by the effort of an American sailor to speak in favor of the bill while standing on a gallery railing clinging to a pillar.

The bill now goes to the senate, where similar legislation was killed after passage by the house last session by the threat of a filibuster.

Representatives of the seven southern states which have a poll tax fought the bill on these grounds: That it is unconstitutional, that it invades state's rights, that it is Communist inspired, and that it raises an issue dangerous to national unity during the war. Proponents of the bill charged that the poll tax disfranchises southern Negroes and demanded that it be abolished to extend the benefits of democracy to all Americans.

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Sailor Interrupts Debate.

The debate was at its height when a youthful sailor in uniform sprang from his seat to the gallery rail. His words were difficult to understand in the excitement that followed, but many agreed they heard him say:

"I want to speak for thousands who can't be here. The poll tax is undemocratic. Colored men fight beside us on the ships and we don't ask them to pay poll tax. I——"

At that moment secret service men and house attendants seized him. Clinging to the gallery rail as silence settled over the chamber he called out in a ringing voice:

"Mr. Speaker, do I have the floor?"

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He was being hauled outside when he finished the sentence.

On Leave from Ship.

The sailor identified himself to police as Evan Owen Jones, 21 years old, a navy second class signalman from San Francisco. He insisted that he did not even know the nature of the legislation when he visited the house, explaining that he had come to see "how democracy clicked" during 48 hours of leave after a voyage.

Questioned by officials, he said: "They're fighting the Civil war all over again in there."

Warned that he had no right to speak as a house guest and that he had delayed proceedings by his outburst, he replied:

"Put me in there at the speakers' stand then. I'll tell 'em. They're wasting time themselves."

The bluejacket was told he might return to his ship after officials who questioned him reported that he was rational but excited.

Assails Southern Arguments.

Rep. Frances P. Bolton [R., O.] ridiculed the assertion of southern congressmen that the Negroes in their states are happy and that the bill was politically inspired.

"There is such a thing as a patriotic desire," she said, "to see that America is true to herself. Who are we," she asked, "to talk about democracy when 96 southern one group?"

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Rep. Hatton W. Sumners [D., Tex.] told the house:

"Russia has abolished the comintern, but we have taken it up and are carrying the ball."

He rebuked those who favored the bill for doing a disservice to their country in time of war and branded as a slander to the southern states the charge that they disfranchise the Negro.

"There is some expense to a democracy," said Sumners. "The individual who is unwilling to pay $1.50 or $2 isn't a good citizen of this democracy."

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Negro Tells of Struggle.

Rep. William L. Dawson [D., Ill.], the only Negro congressman, urged passage of the bill, telling how he worked his way thru college after brief schooling when he was not needed in the Georgia fields, "to take advantage of the American opportunity to become all that an American citizen ought to be.

"You know," he said, "the Constitution meant to give every citizen the right to vote."

Laughter interrupted Rep. Thomas G. Abernathy [D., Miss.] when he told the members:

"No Negro was ever lynched in my state if he behaved himself."

Starnes Questions Suffrage.

Rep. Joe Starnes [D., Ala.] said that universal suffrage does not mean democracy and asserted that the ballot should be given only to those who have the "God given" intelligence to think soundly on governmental problems.

Rep. Sam Hobbs [D., Ala.] sought in vain to amend the bill, which bans the poll tax as a prerequisite to voting at primaries or other elections for President, Vice President, senator, or congressman. He tried to eliminate reference to primaries, but other members retorted that the primary is really the election in southern states.

Votes 265-110 -- Sends Bill To Senate

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

MAY 26 1943

By Adam Lapin

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, May 25. — The House voted for democracy today as it passed the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill by an overwhelming margin of 265 to 110.

Rep. Vito Marcantonio, sponsor of the measure, hailed the vote as a demonstration of unity both in the House where a coalition of congressmen of all parties joined together and outside where labor, fraternal and church groups combined to support abolition of the poll.

The committee warned of the stiff fight ahead in the Senate but

WASHINGTON, May 25 (UP). — A man in a sailor's uniform who later identified himself as Evan O. Jones of Los Angeles, interrupted House debate on anti-poll tax legislation today by leaping to the gallery railing and shouting, "why should a man pay a tax

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to vote when he can fight without paying a tax?"

Taken from the gallery by attendants, he explained later that he "just came up here to see what was going on in democracy.

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WARN OF SENATE FIGHT

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

Senate can be beaten and the measure passed within a month.

Democrats and Republicans from the East, Midwest and West joined together to give the measure its tremendous lead. They were supported by a small handful of Southern congressmen including Reps. Percy Priest and Estes Kefauver of Tennessee and R. Ewing Thomason of Texas. Thomason was the only congressmen from poll-tax state to support the bill.

The broad support for the measure was expected in the coalition steering committee which guided the bill to passage.

Chairman of the steering committee was Rep. George Bender, Ohio Republican. The time for the bill on the Democratic side was controlled by Rep. Warren Magnuson, Washington Democrat, and on the Republican side by Rep. Joseph C. Baldwin, New York Republican.

Southern poll-tax Democrats made up the great majority of the 110 votes against the bill. They were joined by some Democrats from border states, and by 16 Republicans.

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GOP DEFEATISTS VOTE NO

The Republicans who voted against the bill were among the most prominent defeatists in the House and include Reps. John Taber, of New York; Noah Mason of Illinois, and Clare Hoffman and Fred Bradley of Michigan. Rep. James Wadsworth of New York also voted against the bill.

Rep. Hoffman, the most notorious labor-baiter in the House, pleaded with Republicans not to break their anti-Roosevelt alliance with the Southern poll taxers. But he was ignored.

As the day went on, the poll taxers became increasingly frantic and soon dropped the veneer of polite constitutional argument against repeal of the poll tax which disenfranchises 10,000,000 Negro and white people in the South, and red-baited. They attacked Marcantonio personally, and then insulted the Negro people repeatedly.

Typical of the level of the debate was this remark by Rep. Arthur Winstead, of Mississippi:

"No n—— has ever been lynched in my state as long as he behaves himself."

Rep. John Rankin, the notorious Negro-baiter and defeatist, injected an ugly anti-Semitic note in the debate which was applauded not only by his poll tax colleagues but by many of the Republicans who voted for the measure.

"Stalin has abolished the Comintern," Rankin said. "But we still have the Frankfurter Comintern here in Washington."

SLANDER MARCANTONIO

Rep. Marcantonio was singled out for personal vituperation by many of the poll taxers both for his advocacy of the pending bill and for his entire record of consistent support of progressive measures.

Rep. Hatton Sumners of Texas, the elder statesman of the poll taxers, said at one point that Marcantonio "doesn't believe in our form of government."

Marcantonio, who took the floor shortly afterwards, said that he treated "those remarks with the contempt they deserve."

"My people died for democracy before Mr. Marcantonio ever saw the Statue of Liberty," said Starnes.

Marcantonio, who had for the most part ignored the personal insults which had been levelled against him, leaped to his feet to answer what he considered an affront to the people of his district. He pointed out that "the casualty lists of the War Department" were the best testimonial to the people of his district in East Harlem.

ANSWERS POLL TAXERS

Marcantonio hurled back the argument of the poll taxers that the proponents of the bill were creating disunity and pointed out that the real threat to unity came from the poll taxers.

"True patriots will refuse to bow and kneel before the false god of race or color discrimination," he said.

A dramatic incident early in the day highlighted the debate which itself was frequently exciting and marked with hectic verbal clashes.

It happened just before Rep. Butler Hare, South Carolina poll taxer, had finished a typical speech fighting all over again the battles of the Civil War.

A young blue-clad sailor rose in the visitors gallery and said:

"Mr. Speaker, I demand to be heard. I speak for the thousands who cannot be here. I am a man in the service."

Before Secret Service men could pull him away, he said:

"If I fight with a man should he be forced to pay poll tax before he can vote?"

Later reporters discovered that the sailor is Evan O. Jones of Los Angeles. Although only 20 years old, he has been in the Navy for two years and saw action at Singapore and other Pacific engagements.

Jones told reporters that he came to find out about democracy in Washington but discovered that Southern Congressmen were still fighting the battles of the Civil War all over again.

After being taken in custody by the Sergeant-at-Arms, Jones was taken to the office of Dr. George Calvert, Capitol physician, who is also a captain in the Navy.

"This is Navy stuff now," Calvert told newspapermen. "You can't check. It's all off the record. And you can't check with me on it."

Jones was said to have been sent back to his ship which he left for a 48-hour furlough.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Rep. Manasco Says Anti-Poll Tax Action Threat To Democrats

MAY 10 1943

Congressman Defends State Rights In South In Opposing Measure

MAY

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Rep. Manasco (D., Ala.) said Monday sponsors of the anti-poll tax bill, "have as their purpose the destruction of the Democratic party in the South."

Rep. Marcantonio (A.-L., N. Y.) last week obtained the 218th House signature needed to bring his anti-poll tax bill out of the committee and onto the House floor for action May 24.

MAY 10 1943

Styling the New Yorker as "the new leader of the Democratic party," Manasco said the bill would "sound the death knell to the last vestiges of states' rights.

"Sooner or later," he added in a statement, "some politician will realize that we have 120,000,000 white people in this country and that it will be politically profitable to cater to them if they want to stay in office."

MAY 10 1943

"We will see a political party composed of those who believe in white supremacy instead of being controlled by a well-organized minority.

MAY 10 1943

"Minorities should be dealt with justly but should never be allowed to control the destinies of a preponderant majority. When we reach harmony in our war effort in one breath and brand as traitors 15,000,000 white Southerners in the next we are not doing much toward creating harmony.

"Our states if left alone would sooner or later repeal the poll tax, but we will fight any effort on the part of the federal government to force down our throats legislation sponsored by alien groups."

Whether Senator Pepper (D., Fla.) would carry the anti-poll tax banner again in the Senate was problematical. Although he has sponsored such legislation unsuccessfully in previous session of Congress, Pepper declined to comment when he learned the issue would be brought before the House once more.

MAY 10 1943

The tax is now collected in seven states—Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, South Carolina, Mississippi, Texas and Virginia—as a prerequisite to voting in federal elections.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala

Inviting Intrusion?

MAY 26 1943

The poll tax issue is before Congress again, much to the regret even of many who would like to get rid of this curb on voting. It is a foregone conclusion, now that the measure has been extracted from the committee which had pigeon-holed it, the House will give it a resounding majority. That is exactly what seemed in prospect at this writing. But when the proposal goes to the Senate, it is fairly certain to be put to sleep again. That chamber's rules being what they are, and Southern senators being as hostile to the proposal as they are, what apparently lies ahead is another filibuster, halting all other business, until the matter is again removed temporarily from discussion. As a realistic approach to early poll-tax reform, in Alabama let us say, what is happening and what is foredoomed in Washington, may serve as a very serious barrier.

MAY 26 1943

Yet that does not remove from our own Legislature the responsibility of dealing with this problem. The argument of state's rights which has been used against federal intervention should be lived up to. The contention that the national government should not invade the sovereignty of our state should be bodied forth in action by and for Alabama. If this is not simply lip service, something should be done at Montgomery for poll-tax reform. The time has come for this commonwealth to effectuate the claims made on its behalf. Yet, so far as one can tell, nothing has been done to start the legislative ball to rolling. How can we expect to stave off national compulsion, if we fail to act ourselves?

MAY 26 1943

It ought to be obvious by now that it is just this kind of procedure which strengthens those who are moving heaven and earth for federal action. Several other Southern states have been willing to take the step, but Alabama continues to delay. Other Southern states have taken the step, because they knew it was inescapable in one form or another, and because they saw in it something having little or nothing to do with the question of giving the Negro the right to vote.

If Tennessee and Florida are not daunted, is Alabama less willing to take a risk for the sake of enlarging the democratic process among its people? Are we always to see everything in terms exclusively of the Negro? Are we to persist in letting the shadow of our fears on that score keep us from doing justice to white Alabamians who are being deprived of the right to vote, because they are poor? If this Legislature does not provide for poll-tax reform, it will have failed to meet a great test of creative statesmanship. It will have encouraged intrusion by Washington in the affairs of Alabama. A movement to eliminate the cumulative feature of our poll tax, would be a first step in the right direction.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

A Matter of Hours

MAY 24 1943

TODAY or tomorrow the House of Representatives will once again vote on legislation to abolish the poll tax in federal elections.

The poll tax has made it possible for the Southern congressional bloc to act freely as agents of reaction and obstruction in Congress.

MAY 24 1943

It has served as a weapon for the enemies of the war effort among the Negro people in their attempts to block national unity and to prevent wholehearted support of the war.

It has furnished the Japanese propagandists with ammunition to be used against us among the colored peoples of the Far East.

The poll taxers are fighting bitterly to prevent its abolition. They are attempting to intimidate supporters of the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill from attending. They are planning to load it with amendments so as to confuse issues, and thereby to split its supporters.

MAY 24 1943

Their efforts can be defeated only if every Congressman knows that his constituents are watching his action on this measure carefully.

MAY 24 1943

Send a last minute wire to your Congressman, urging that he be present, that he vote for the anti-poll tax bill, and that he oppose any and all amendments.

New Republic
New York, N. Y.

The Poll Tax Again

FEB 15 1943

IT IS THE BEST of good news that Tennessee has repealed her fifty-year-old poll-tax law, which required a minimum of 50 cents and in many counties was much higher. The poll tax continues to throw its sinister shadow now in only seven states, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas and Texas.

Tennessee's action, of course, does not make a federal law any less desirable. By an end-of-the-session filibuster last November, a handful of Southern Senators were able to prevent a vote in the Senate on the Geyer-Pepper anti-poll-tax bill which had earlier passed the House by the impressive vote of 252 to 84, and to the support of which a majority of the Senate was committed. The poll-tax Senators were thus able to pervert democratic procedure as effectively in the Senate as they have for a generation in the poll-tax states where 6,000,000 white and 4,000,000 Negro citizens have been kept from voting.

But if the filibuster was a victory for reaction, it at least had the effect of acquainting the whole nation with the nature of the poll-tax system and increasing the determination of those who believe in democracy that the right to vote be restored to millions of disfranchised Americans. The debate on the poll tax brought into the light its whole ugly history; how it was written into the constitutions of seven of the eight poll-tax states in the 1890's and the 1900's, deliberately to disfranchise the people who had begun to find their political voice in the Populist movement; how it immediately reduced the electorate; how it is so deeply embedded in most states that removing it by state action is almost impossible; how it works to return unrepresentative and reactionary Southern congressmen year after year by microscopic electorates; and how they, by their seniority in Congress, maintain a stranglehold on congressional-committee machinery. The poll-tax election figures have been spread on the record: Smith of Virginia returned by less than 10 percent of the potential voters in the district; Dies of Texas returned by 7 percent of the potential voters; Cox of Georgia returned by 3 percent; Rankin of Mississippi by 2 percent. The disruptive effect on national unity of the denial to 10,000,000 citizens of any voice in the decisions of war and peace has for the first time become widely recognized.

FEB 15 1943

That the importance of abolishing the poll tax, as a war measure, is more thoroughly understood than ever before is indicated by the introduction of six anti-poll-tax bills in the House in the first few days of the new Congress. But poll-tax legislation is referred to the Judiciary Committee, dominated by poll-tax Representatives, who, like their fellows in the Senate, showed in the last session that they would not willingly let the House vote on the measure. The legislation must be brought out of the Judiciary Committee by a petition signed by 218 members of the House, in order that the bill may come to a vote.

FEB 15 1943

It is therefore urgent that at the expiration of the thirty legislative days during which the Judiciary Committee is permitted to consider the bill, a discharge petition be signed as soon as possible by 218 Representatives. The abolition of the poll tax is an important war measure.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

POLL TAX FATALITY

The Tennessee Legislature has now passed the necessary bills to abolish the poll tax as a requisite for voting in that state. But it would be a great mistake for anti-poll tax enthusiasts to assume that removal of the poll tax automatically extends universal suffrage in Tennessee. The poll tax was eliminated only after a severe tightening of various features of the state registration law. This means that qualifications for voting will be analyzed as closely as ever.

FEB 1 1943

Tennessee has handled the poll tax subject as it should be handled. That is, what is done with regard to voting requirements should be done by state action and not by congressional action in Washington. Elimination of the poll tax will in time probably be general among the states now imposing it, but when they get ready to do away with it the states propose to do it themselves and not permit the central government to take on the strictly state function of defining suffrage qualifications.

But it is to be remembered that if a state like Alabama should ultimately decide to do away with the poll tax, there are still registration boards whose authority is very great in protecting the ballot boxes from those lacking the necessary experience and qualifications for voting.—Alabama Journal (Montgomery).

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

FEB 18 1943

NOT UNDER PRESSURE

In an editorial entitled "Three Cheers for Tennessee" the St. Louis Post-Dispatch lauds action of the Volunteer State legislature in abolishing the poll tax. The seven States which remain wedded to it were admonished thusly: "Do these United States wish to avert another battle in Congress over the Pepper-Geyer bill? Then they have only to follow the perfect example of Tennessee."

Main trouble with this line of argument is that the people of the sinful seven have never been inclined to cringe before big stick or bloody shirt tactics. The notion that you should do a thing to avoid being bludgeoned into doing it has never set well with them, as the record in peace as in war bears out. There is no telling to what heights of virtue we might rise if only we could be rid of these constant Yankee threats calling on us to "reform, or else."

With self-respecting groups, as with individuals, such a militant demand is apt to evoke a stiff-necked response, rather than the meek compliance it is supposed to produce.

FEB 16 1943

New Masses
New York, N. Y.

Progress in Tennessee

FEB 16 1943



TENNESSEE has come back into the Union. Last week the state Senate, by a vote of more than two to one, passed a bill repealing the state's fifty-year-old poll tax. The bill had previously been approved by the House. Congratulations are due the people, the legislature, and the governor of Tennessee on taking this important step toward unity in the war. Tennessee thus becomes the second state in recent years—the other was Florida—to abandon this anti-democratic vestige of the post-slavery era. What the killing of the poll tax has meant for Florida is attested by the fact that it made possible the election of the man who is probably the outstanding win-the-war member of the US Senate, Sen. Claude Pepper who, appropriately enough, authorized a Senate bill to repeal the poll tax in federal elections.

FEB 16 1943

Undoubtedly the national campaign for such a federal law had much to do with Tennessee's action. Seven southern states still cling to this un-American, unconstitutional practice, which denies the franchise to millions of black and white Americans and enables the Dies' and Coxes to retain their grip on our national life. In the new Congress anti-poll tax bills have been introduced by several representatives, including Vito Marcantonio of New York. It ought to be possible to get agreement on a single measure, and with an energetic campaign and greater cooperation from the

the poll-tax and the enactment of anti-lynch legisla-
e meeting bitter resentment and expressions of dis-
tion from Southern Democrats this week, but advo
The measures are never-making are:
House, the proposal to (1) Senator James M. Mead, New
presentative Marcantonio, York, whom President Roose-
k American Laborite, on velt terms "a real power" in
egic judiciary committee the Federal government, re-
heated opposition because newed his unequivocal support
e who introduced one of of the two pending bills;
anti-poll tax bills in the (2) A national conference to launch
legislative days of that a vigorous and successful cam-
paign to abolish the poll tax
is scheduled for March 9 in
Washington;
(3) The National Committee to
Abolish the Poll Tax announced

its support of the House Bill introduced by New York's Representative Joseph Clark Baldwin, who will also introduce a discharge petition to bring his measure on the floor.

GY TAKING SHAPE
developments which
that a turbulent anti-
ti-tax showdown is in the

Other developments which
prophesy that a turbulent anti-

Pittsburgh Courier
JAN 23 1943

Poll-Tax Showdown Looms In Congress

JAN 23 1943

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21—Bills providing for the aboli-

"The perennial filibuster may run into hard sledding the next time," predicted Senator Mead this week. "The democratic method of government is under scrutiny thru-out the world," continued the solon, "and since we are its foremost exponent, how can our armed forces and our spokesmen for democracy meet the criticism abroad that we assess a tax on millions of our citizens for the basic right of voting in free elections?

"Today the American Negro is distinguishing himself in this bitter war to preserve human rights. He fights valiantly today because he has faith that this hangover of medieval fuedalism is doomed."

In addition to H.R. 987, Baldwin's Bill against the poll tax, there are others introduced by Warren G. Magnuson (Democrat, Washington), George H. Bender (Republican, Ohio), Vito Marcantonio (Laborite, New York), Stephan A. Day (Republican, Illinois) and Joseph Gavagan (Democrat, New York).

MAR 2 1943

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

SEN. PEPPER SILENT ON POLL-TAX BILL

JAN 31 1943

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28—All too significant is the purported refusal of Sen. Claude Pepper of Florida to reintroduce an anti-poll tax bill in the senate at this session. It was Pepper's bill that created the all out effort to eliminate this great evil and which precipitated a filibuster in the last days of the 77th congress.

The changed attitude is unexplicable, even to those closest to the senator. As usual in such cases, and since the senator is a strong admirer and close friend of President Roosevelt, it is being said that White House influence is behind Pepper's changed attitude.

However, Sen. James M. Mead of New York struck a blow for the early enactment of an anti-poll tax bill as well as an anti-lynching bill.

"Congress should speed approval of the anti-poll tax and anti-lynching bills in this session," he asserted. "The poll-tax system, basically undemocratic is undemocratic and particularly obnoxious today. The democratic method of government is under scrutiny throughout the world. We are its foremost exponents.

"How can our armed forces and our spokesmen for democracy meet the criticism abroad that we assess a tax on millions of our citizens for the basic right of voting in free elections? How can they explain a poll tax system which results in the disfranchisement of millions of free American citizens?

Solemn Obligation JAN 31 1943

"In my opinion, our congress has a solemn obligation to wipe out this lingering taint of the landed aristocracy. Circumstances of birth and wealth shall always effect the course of men's lives—that is not necessarily evil nor undemocratic.

"But our goal in this conflict is to preserve, to dignify and to popularize the 'four freedoms.' If we are to achieve this end, and indeed if we are to prove to the world that opportunity and equality are afforded under the democratic system of government, how better can we proceed than to wipe out the poll tax wherever it is applied?

"While we are about this business of a long-delayed reform the anti-lynching bill should be passed. JAN 31 1943

"The perennial filibuster may run into hard sledding the next time," the senator concluded.

On both sides of congress, members are busy coralling followers to support the measures they plan to introduce, but it will be interesting to note whether or not Sen. Pepper still feels friendly toward the elimination of the poll-tax or just what his attitude will be.

The Worker
New York, N. Y

A sustained and determined drive to eliminate the poll tax from American life will be launched at the National Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax in Washington, this Tuesday and Wednesday.

Sponsored by the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, the Conference will have a wide representation from labor, farm, church, Negro and other types of organizations, coming from all over the nation, representing the great majority of the people of America.

The popularity of the anti-poll tax issue is such that six congressmen from various sections of the country have introduced anti-poll tax bills in the House of Representatives. This is in distinct contrast to previous years, when it was difficult to get a sponsor.

Congressmen who have introduced bills are: Rep. Marcantio, New York American Laborite; Baldwin, New York Republican; Bender, Ohio Republican; Gavagan, New York Democrat; Magnusson, Washington Democrat; and Kefauver Tennessee Democrat.

LABOR JOINS DRIVE

MAR 7 - 1943

The three great organizations of labor—AFL, CIO and Railway Labor Executive Association—as well as the National Farmers Union, have submitted delegates' credentials, as have a wide number of international state and local union organizations. Others who will attend are the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Negro Congress, the Negro Labor Victory Committee, the Negro Elks organization, leading Negro fraternities and sororities, the Farmer-Labor Association of Minnesota, the national organization of the Young Women's Christian Association, the Cooperative League, the Workers Alliance, the Townsend clubs, and many religious bodies.

Keynote speaker at the conference will be A. F. Whitney, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and a leader in the fight against the poll tax. Congressmen Baldwin and Marcantonio, two of those who have introduced bills, will also speak. Several of the other congressmen who are sponsoring bills have been invited. An invitation has also been extended to Congressman Dawson of Illinois, only Negro congressman.

Many other leaders of national organizations, in the labor and farmer bodies, will be among the speakers.

MAR 1 1943

Wednesday will be devoted to buttonholing congressmen to get commitments of concrete support from them regarding passage of the bill. At least 150 are expected on that day.

All anti-poll tax bills have been turned over to the House Judiciary Committee, which is packed with poll taxers, and which will try to keep them bottled up in the committee. That requires a discharge petition signed by a majority of the congressmen (218) in order to bring the bill to a vote.

Last year, the Geyer bill went through that procedure. It took so long, however, to get it through the House, where it finally passed overwhelmingly, that the session was almost ended by the time it got to the Senate. It was possible, therefore, for filibustering poll taxers in the Senate to kill it.

MAR 7 - 1943

Advocates of the measure are, therefore, determined to get it through early this year. They expect the conference this week to launch the necessary drive with a bang.

MAR 7 - 1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Poll Taxers Riding High In New Congress Session

JAN 30 1943

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Cocky and confident with the congressional balance of power in their pocket, Southern poll taxers are riding rough shod over the New Deal administration in the nation's capital.

The wholesale reactionary revolt is gathering strength daily and during the past week twice bared its teeth in cracking down on administration leadership in both the House and the Senate.

In the upper body the Southern Democrats succeeded in getting vengeance against Sergeant-at-Arms Cheley W. Jurney, who was forced to resign because of his part in "arresting" absentee senators during the filibuster against the anti-poll tax bill in the last session.

Name Bilbo Protege

Named in his stead was a lame duck, former Sen. Wall Doxey of Mississippi, who was one of three solons who played a leading part in the filibuster. Doxey was nominated for the $8,000 a year job by Sen. Kenneth McKellar, who was one of the senators Jurney arrested during the filibuster. At the time the Democrat from Tennessee was bitter and vowed that he would 'get' Jurney.

The new sergeant-at-arms is considered a personal protege of Sen. Theodore Bilbo, D., Miss., and his defeat in the primaries in Mississippi last year was considered a blow to Bilbo's prestige.

In the House at the same time, Southerners had a field day in ganging up on Rep. Vito Marcantonio, American Labor Party man from New York who has been one of the staunchest fighters for an anti-poll tax and anti-lynching bill in three sessions of Congress.

Rejected for Committee

Marcantonio had been slated for a post in the important House Judiciary committee as part of a deal in which he wung many votes to Democratic congressmen in New York during the last election. But when the matter came before the Democratic caucus, the Dixie solons welched and rejected the recommendation of the committee on committees. JAN 30 1943

While cries of "Communist" were raised against the New York congressman, the real reason for his rejection was given away by Rep. Charles E. McKenzue, D., La., who said:

"Both the anti-lynch and anti-poll tax bills would come before the Judiciary committee and to put this man on the very committee that would approve of these bills is just another New Deal effort to sabotage the white people of the South and will do untold damage to the Democratic party in the South."

The opposition to Rep. Marcantonio was led by Rep. Rankin, D., Miss., Dies, D. Tex., Woodrum, D. Va. and Boren, D. Okla.

Blames Domestic Fascists

Rep. Marcantonio in a statement after his rejection said:

"I was defeated by the forces of domestic fascists most of whom war, to destroy fascism abroad and have entrenched themselves in Congress by the undemocratic poll tax. rights of American labor, to repeal my fight to extend democracy by the abolition of the poll tax and to wipe out the disgraceful fascist blot on America, lynchings.

"I am not at all discouraged. I unite to destroy these domestic fas-

cists who are subverting the victory effort and are conspiring daily to turn America into a Vichy America. I shall continue to fight for extension of democracy to everyone in America irrespective of race color and creed.

"The real issue against me was the poll tax and to wipe out lynch-

"I shall continue to fight for extension of democracy to everyone in America irrespective of race color and creed.

Birmingham, Ala.
News
POLL TAX IS UP AGAIN

Announcement is to the effect that Washington is to the cantonio, however, as he is a traditional baiter York, has obtained enough signatures to force of the South and apparently has little concern his anti-poll tax bill from the judiciary commit- for his country as a whole, as he voted against tee of the House and to get it on the calendar every measure of defense before we entered for a vote on May 24, in spite of the opposition fore, that the bill in question will be chloro- of Congressman Sam F. Hobbs, of this district, formed in the Senate after the poll tax propo- and other Southern proponents of states' rights, nents in the House have MAY 7 1943 It all means that the war effort will have to their prospection step aside again until the old effort to crucify the South is reengacted in the Congress. There seems little likelihood that the bill will pass, but if there was a time when such there ever was a time when such

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Pursuit Of Democracy

JAN 23 1943

NEW POLL TAX TECHNIQUE CALLS FOR REDUCTION IN REPRESENTATION

BY MARJORIE McKENZIE

THE proponents of anti-poll tax legislation have been dancing attendance on the new Congress, brightly hopeful of an opportunity to feel its pulse on the certain reintroduction of this stormy subject. Speculation on passage this session of an anti-poll tax bill is violent and varied, with perhaps an edge of sentiment going to the optimists who believe that the House will force the issue over which it so recently lost prestige to a handful of filibustering senators.



Miss McKenzie

As for the good this trend presages for us, it would be wise to remember and prepare for what is now openly described by many southern interpreters as the true racial attitudes of the white South. One eminent sociologist has observed after an exhaustive study of caste problems in the South, that the white southerner is determined never to permit his government to be dominated by Negroes. Consequently, he states, if the old methods of keeping Negroes from voting fail, then new ways will be devised. Representative Rankin has guaranteed personally that no Negroes will vote in Mississippi as a result of passage of anti-poll tax legislation. While the thirteen poll tax states, therefore, must be concerned with developing fresh techniques for disfranchising their large Negro populations, we appear to be a step ahead of them with a new trick just pulled out of the bag.

Mr. Walter White, Executive Secretary of the NAACP, has suggested that his organization is going to be interested, as part of its program for 1943, in the enforcement of Section 2 of the 14th Amendment of the Constitution. This section recites that, "Representatives shall be apportioned among the several states according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each state, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the executive and judicial officers of a state, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such state, being 21 years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens 21 years of age in such State." Section 5 of the Amendment gives Congress the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the above provisions.

CONTEMPLATION of the latent power in Section 2 is not new to Negro leadership, but any organized implementation of these possibilities will be entirely novel. Over the years we have culled every word of the Constitution in our efforts to enlarge our citizenship status and in the last decade, particularly, we have reaped no mean harvest of legal victories. Opinion has been divided as to whether or not we should move in on Section 2 and seek to effect a reduction of representation in those state which deny the right to vote to N roes. Perhaps the only formal airing the idea has had was in 1921, when Walter White and the late James Weldon Johnson appeared before a Congressional Committee to protest an increase in the reapportionment of representation on the basis of the 1920 census. Research reveals very little historical material is available on the subject. A method of procedure yet has to be developed.

MAY BE DIFFICULT TO UNEARTH FACTS

One of the original facts to be established judicially is that the right to vote at state and federal elections has been denied to Negroes in a given state. That the situation is flagrant and notorious will not avoid a finding of fact on this point, no doubt by a specially appointed Congressional Committee. One of the problems will be to differentiate between those who do not chose to vote and those who are debarred from voting. Part of the issue may be solved by the decision of the Supreme Court in the pending Texas primary case, Lee v. Allright. It will be difficult to gather reliable evidence in areas where Negro witnesses will be terrorized and the white population utterly defiant. The ultimate goal is to establish the ratio of denial of the franchise and to bring about a proportionate reduction in the number of state representatives.

THIS is no trifling task. Most authorities are of the opinion that it will have to be done by the introduction of Congressional legislation, as is clearly stated in Section 5, although others who have studied the problem closely for the last few months believe that it can be done administratively through committee action. It gives promise of being a handwagon that the Republicans would board gleefully, for it is one way to break up the Solid South. The newly elected and potentially powerful Republican minority members are going to resent being insignificant addenda to committees headed by poll tax Congressmen. Here and there, a liberal northern Democrat, who sees the swing toward reaction and the handwriting on the wall, may enjoy a last fling by supporting the fight.

OLD ARGUMENT WILL BE REVISED

If agitation over compliance with Section 2 gets a formal start, there will be a great beating of the cymbals about how national unity and the war effort are thereby disrupted, just as in the poll tax discussions. But as President Roosevelt said, in answer to his critics who would have him forego present legislation for post-war security through an American counterpart of the Beveridge plan, —"I dissent."

New Masses
New York, N. Y.

JAN 23 1943

Sweep It Out

MAR 9 - 1943

IF THIS war has proved anything, it is that to deny freedom to others is to weaken our own. Britain has been learning this the hard way through the disasters in Burma and Malaya and now the crisis in India. How much our own denial of rights to Puerto Rico, to the Negro people, to the 10,000,000 Southerners, black and white, who are deprived of the franchise—how much all this has already cost us and the United Nations, no one can say. In war, let us remember, errors and abuses are ultimately paid for in human life, if not in actual national defeat.

MAR 9 - 1943

We now have a chance to stop paying part of this terrible price. Eight members of the House of Representatives have introduced bills to abolish the poll tax in the seven southern states where it still exists. Notable among tliese bills is HR 7, introduced by Rep. Vito Marcantonio of New York, whose name has become synonymous with win-the-war policies and militant progressivism. There is no doubt that a majority of Congress is against the poll tax. This was shown last year when the Geyer anti-poll tax bill passed the House overwhelmingly, while its companion measure in the Senate, sponsored by Senator Pepper, was prevented from passing only because the poll tax cabal used the blackmail device of the filibuster to block a vote.

The abolition of the poll tax is a war issue, just as production and price-control are war issues. The South cannot play its full part in the war so long as a majority of its people are treated as serfs. And Congress will repeatedly fail to rise to its historic responsibilities so long as it is cut down to the stature of the poll taxers who dominate its leading committees, the Dies Coxes, Smiths, and Byrds who are kept in office by a small fraction of their constituents. To help unite all forces for this battle the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax has called a conference in Washington for March 9 and 10. The committee is supporting the anti-poll tax bill introduced by Rep. Joseph Baldwin of New York. It is essential that there be no division among the supporters of the various bills, but that agreement be reached behind a single measure and a single program that will smash for all time a dangerous outpost of Hitlerism in America.

MAR 9 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Kill Move to End Poll Tax In Georgia

FEB 2 1943

(Special to The Worker)

ATLANTA, Ga.—Hope of modification or repeal of Georgia's $1 a year poll tax died here when a House committee killed a Senate bill providing reinstatement of delinquent voters upon a maximum payment of $3.

Chairman Reuben Burnside said the House Ways and Means Committee killed the bill by a 16 to 2 vote along with a similar bill to make the payment for total back poll tax only $2.

Previously the committee had reported adversely on a House measure that would have eliminated the poll tax altogether in Georgia.

The Senate bill was introduced as an appeasement measure to quiet agitation for the outright abolition of the levy. Its sponsor, Jack Williams of Waycross, said it would enable the reinstatement of "thousands of voters who fell behind in their poll tax payments in depression years."

Georgia's poll tax is cumulative and Williams said many persons would now have to pay upwards of $20 to regain the right to vote in city, state and national elections.

FEB 2 1 1943

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Restores Negro To Political Status In State

FEB 13 1943

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Feb. 11—The repeal last week of the vote tax, Tennessee's half-century-old poll tax, the subject of stormy debate and political campaigns since 1938, brought back the vote to thousands of the state's colored citizens—the class whose right to suffrage suffered most from the tax on the vote. Cooper to the bill made Tennessee repealer.

RACIAL ISSUES STILL PARAMOUNT

Yet, there are tales seeping in at

FEB 13 1943

TAX NOT MEANT TO HURT NEGRO

High political leaders admitted that the tax, although never a measure intended for racial discrimination, nevertheless affected colored voters more adversely than whites because that group unfortunately had fewer of the world's goods than their more fortunate brethren and consequently were not in a position to pay the $2 annual tax on the vote except in small minorities.

With the repeal of the vote tax, the only requisite for voting will be registration—which passed as a companion measure to the poll tax repealer.

times from some of the remoter areas where the colored population is greatest which, if authenticated, would indicate that democracy in Tennessee is still a matter of race.

These reports cannot be verified, and, for the most part, are vague—and certainly they do not represent the majority of counties in the state—but they tend to show that in some countries, at least, the colored voter is being deprived of his rights.

The registration law may not make this any better.

Christian Recorder
Philadelphia, Pa.

TENNESSEE KILLS POLL TAX MEASURE

MAR 4 1943

NASHVILLE.—Indications last week were that Negro citizens long denied the right to vote because poll tax payment was a prerequisite, would be granted their suffrage when the state senate repeal th poll taxe law by vote of 22-10. A permanent registration bill was also passed by the legislators.

Both bills have been signed by Gov. Cooper to become law.

MAR 4 1943

When informed of the senate's action, Gov. Cooper expressed himself as "delighted at the results," because he said "it is in the public interest." He said the fight for passage of the two measures was "the hardest legislative fight I've had since I became governor, but," he added, "it was a clean, hard fight."

MAR

Action by the Tennessee Courts diminished by one the list of eight southern states that insist on the legislation as a means of state revenue, but principally as a barrier to voting rights of colored people and poor whites.—A.N.P.

TENNESSEE KILLS THE POLL TAX

FEB 13 1943

It was a great day for democracy when Tennessee's Legislature abolished its poll tax.

Pittsburgh Courier

By this intelligent action the Legislature aligned Tennessee with the more enlightened and progressive States of the South.

Only extremely limited minds believe that any good purpose is served by restricting the right of franchise in any way in a democracy.

Pittsburgh Pa.

Since the purpose of a vote is to get the consensus of opinion in a community, a county or a commonwealth and to establish a truly legitimate basis for government, the right to vote should not be restricted in any way except that the alien population should not be allowed to ballot.

Even illiterates should be permitted to vote, if citizens, because their views and interests are also of importance, and because of their illiteracy the ballot box is about the only place where they can express their wishes.

We believe that instead of restricting the franchise by poll taxes, property and educational qualifications, the State should impose a stiff fine on those citizens who REFRAIN from voting, in order to insure a complete expression of opinion at the polls once a year.

There has never been a total vote of all citizens in any State or in the nation, and yet today, when democracy is threatened by the menace of internal and external totalitarianism, it is more important than ever that every citizen vote.

Pittsburgh Courier

Now that Tennessee has joined the more enlightened States, there is left on the poll tax list only Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas and Arkansas.

In not one of these States would the government be controlled by Negroes if every citizen were required to vote by law.

FEB 13 1943

Even if it were true, there are scores of colored citizens in those States who could give better service to State and nation than people like "The Man" Bilbo, "Tom Tom" Connally, "Cotton Ed" Smith, Glass of Virginia, McKellar of Tennessee, George of Georgia, and poll tax politicians of that ilk.

FEB 13 1943

The legislators of these States might as well realize that the people of this nation are no longer in the mood to tolerate the inequities of poll taxism which give the most backward States as much power in Washington as the most advanced.

Either they will have to abolish their poll taxes or Congress will do it for them—sooner or later.

PM
New York, N. Y

Anti-Poll Tax Bill Forced Out; Early Passage Held Certain

Petition Completed With Record Speed; 10 Congressmen Signed Yesterday

WASHINGTON, May 7.—A majority of House members forced the anti-poll tax bill out of Committee by petition yesterday—as they did last year—but this time early enough in the session to preclude any possibility of its being killed by a filibuster. Passage this month is virtually certain.

The petition was completed in record-breaking time yesterday when 10 Congressmen added their names to it, forcing an automatic vote on the bill. Poll tax Congressmen have been blocking the measure in the House Judiciary Committee.

That the bill will come up for a vote on May 24 was assured when Rep. Antonio Fernandez, (D., N. Mex.) added his name to the petition during the afternoon to provide the 218th signature. Rep. George H. Bender, (R., O.), chairman of the Committee in charge of the petition, quickly filed it with Speaker Rayburn and rushed to the press gallery to announce the triumph.

MAY 7 1943

Record-Breaking Time

Bender and Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N. Y.), author of the poll tax bill, announced the petition had been completed in record-breaking time—one day less than two months, a period during which the House was in session on 32 days.

"The steering committee for HR 7, of which I have acted as chairman," Bender said, "is confident that the House will vote overwhelmingly to abolish this property restriction on suffrage. The passage of this bill will be evidence to our allies that the American people are fighting for democracy and freedom.

MAY 7 1943

"It will go far to strengthen our internal morale and demonstrate to our own people that the Congress has full confidence in the democratic will of our people.

"We trust that the voice of the people will continue to be heard by and reflected in the actions of this Congress."

MAY 7 1943

Committee's Statement

The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, which has conducted the campaign to rally public support for the bill, said the swift completion of the petition indicated "the overwhelming sentiment of the American people to remove the disgraceful blot of the poll tax," and said the move would lead "to strengthening of our war effort by helping to release the full energies of 10,000,000 Negro and white Americans for victory."

MAY 7 1943

The committee in the House which conducted the drive for signatures included, in addition to Bender and Marcantonio, Reps. Warren Magnuson (D., Wash.), Joseph Gavagan (D., N. Y.), William Dawson (D., Ill.), Thomas E. Scanlon (D., Pa.), Charles M. La Follette (R., Ind.) and Joseph Clark Baldwin (R., N. Y.).

MAY 7 1943

Under House rules, when the House meets May 24, Speaker Rayburn will recognize Magnuson to call up the rule for consideration of the bill. The rule provides for four hours of debate. If the rule is adopted by the House the bill will come up immediately and stay before the House until voted up or down.

MAY 7 1943

Magnuson, for the Democrats, and Baldwin, for the Republicans, will be the floor managers in charge of the debate.

It was a non-partisan, coalition drive that put the petition across so quickly. The committee in charge represented three parties, all sections of the country and both the white and Negro races. Dawson is the only Negro in the House.

MAY 7 1943

So far as the House was concerned, there was no hurry about getting the petition signed. But the drive was pushed with all possible speed, so that the bill could be sent over to the Senate in plenty of time to avoid a filibuster such as that which killed a similar measure in the last session.

If the bill is passed by the House on May 24, it will leave more than a year and a half to organize pressure for getting the measure through the Senate. It was blocked there last time by a minority of Senators from Southern states.

MAY 7 1943

The New Bill

Supporters of the legislation are confident that this time they can break through a Senate filibuster. For the bill would be pending throughout next year's election campaign if it were not passed before that time. Last year the bill did not come before the Senate until after the elections. Many Senators who had pledged full support prior to the elections only went through the motions of supporting the bill and quickly gave up in the face of the Southern filibuster.

The measure the House will vote on, like the one the Senate killed last year, would outlaw the poll tax in Federal elections and thus make it easier for 10,000,000 poor Southern people, both white and colored, to take part in the election of Presidents and members of Congress.

MAY 7 1943

Most poor in the South take little part in elections. As a result Southern Congressmen represent primarily the better-off segment of the population, and vote accordingly in Congress. These poll-tax Congressmen hold many of the key positions and for many years have been responsible for the blocking of progressive legislation. Repeal of the poll tax has been supported, therefore, by many liberal, church, labor, and Negro organizations.

MAY 7 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Poll Tax Called No Race Issue

OCT 30 1943

WASHINGTON

Joseph A. Padway, general counsel for the A.F. of L., argued before the Senate Judiciary Committee Monday that the poll-tax issue is not a race question because 60 per cent of the disfranchised citizens in eight Southern States are white.

OCT 30 1943

Representative William Dawson of Chicago and Lee Pressman, general counsel for the CIO, also spoke, supporting the constitutionality of the proposed anti-poll tax bill.

52e-1943

The Poll Tax Fight Has Just Begun

Washington D.C. Tribune

MAY 29 1943

"I want to speak for thousands who can't be here. The poll tax is undemocratic. Why are we taxed to vote when we aren't taxed to fight for our country? Colored men fight beside us on the ships and we don't ask them to pay a tax."

The above cryptic sentences were spoken out of order by a Navy signalman in the House gallery last Tuesday, nevertheless they were very appropriate and had their effect.

Tribune

They were uttered during the heat of debate on abolition of the vicious poll tax system whereby a person is required in seven Southern states to pay tribute for the privilege of voting. A Mississippi Congressman was on the floor denouncing the measure as an effort on the part of the North to inflict social equality on the South. He knew the purpose of the anti-poll tax bill was for no such end.

Washington, D.C.

Had Evan Jones, of the Navy, been permitted to continue his speech uninterrupted, he would no doubt have made the most influential speech of the debate, for "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." As it was, the sentiments he expressed are still ringing in the halls of the Congress, and many a bigoted Congressman was put to shame by the 21-year-old youth.

Jones was not appealing for votes for himsilf, nor was he interested in any political implications that doubtless some Congressman placed upon the bill. It was plain "Jones," a white sailor of the Navy, speaking the sentiments as they came in his mind while he sat observing what he thought was a democratic Congress in a Democratic country. His were the sentiments of a man who believes in democracy and, who unlike the Senators from the poll tax states, is fighting, and may possibly die for democracy. He thought Congress was behind the effort. Dropping in the House gallery on a visit, he was disappointed to hear a rabid debate in progress as to whether or not the democracy he was fighting for would be extended to all Americans. He couldn't resist the impulse to speak, even in face of arrest.

MAY 29 1943

Shortly after this impromptu speech the House voted 265 to 110 to outlaw the collection of taxes as a prerequisite to voting.

Much credit must be given the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax. Their efforts in behalf of this legislation have not been exceeded by any other organization.

Credit is also given to the bill's author, Representative Vito Marcantonio, of New York, and all those who worked so assidiously with him for its passage.

The big job lies ahead. The bill must now be acted on by the Senate, Southern leaders of which have already announced a "filibuster to death." When we recall that it was here where the legislation was defeated by a filibuster last year, we realize that the fight for passage has just begun. It will be much harder than the efforts in the House where filibusterers can be effectively dealt with.

We have the advantage of an early start. The Congress is yet young, with more than a year to go, nevertheless, we must begin uow to marshal our forces for an early hearing in the Senate and early passage of this much needed legislation.

We cannot consider this Country a democratic one until every citizen, no matter how humble, is permitted to exercise the elementary fundamental of citizenship, the right to vote for the officials of his choice, unhampered, unmolested, and untaxed.

DEFEAT THE FILIBUSTER

Guardian, Boston, Mass.

MAY 12 1943

Passage by the House of the Anti-poll tax bill is nothing to be jubilant about. That was expected. Some supporters of the legislation are inclined to take encouragement in the fact that the vote was two to one in favor of the bill. They appear to have forgotten that the House last year passed the anti-poll tax bill by a vote of exactly three to one. It is to be noted that the vote on both sides was larger this year than last year, and that although the affirmative vote is increased, the increase in the negative vote is much larger. If, as some believe, the vote this year shows a greater popular understanding of the vicious effect of the poll tax, it also shows that the opposition has been more aroused. Perhaps there is some basis for gratification in the fact that, as chairman of the Steering Committee, Representative George H. Bender of Ohio, points out, "the Republicans stood almost to a man for the passage of the measure." Many of them did not stand up and be counted for it last year.

The real battle will be in the Senate where both anti-poll tax and anti-lynching legislation has been defeated by filibusters. Senator Bilbo already has announced his determination to talk the bill to death. No doubt he will be aided by senators from MAY 12 1943 seven of the poll-tax states. The only way to conquer the filibuster is to pledge every Northern and Western senator to vote for cloture—the shutting off of debate—a procedure well established in American parliamentary practice and generally recognized as conforming to democratic principles.

Write or telegraph your senators and get their pledge to support the anti-poll tax bill by voting for cloture and by voting for the anti-poll tax bill.

Don' be fooled! The anti-poll tax bill is not for the exclusive benefit of colored people in the South. Such talk is a part of the clever opposition to the measure. As a matter of fact, for MAY 12 1943 two colored citizens disfranchised by the tax three white citizens are also thereby disfranchised. The clear intent of the anti-poll tax legislation is to extend democracy to millions of voteless citizens in Southern States.

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Anti-Poll Tax Bill

When the Marcantonio Anti-Poll Tax bill, which was passed by the House last JUN 4 1943 2½ to one majority, comes up in the Senate, representative government will again be on the spot. A similar bill, which would prohibit seven southern states from exacting a tax from American citizens for the privilege to vote, JUN 5 1943 filibustered to death by the southern Senate bloc last Fall. This bloc has already indicated that it will knife the bill again.

Of course, these southern senators care not a hoot that a preponderant majority of the members of the House voted for the bill and that a majority of the Senate has already come out in favor of it. Neither do they care about the grave injury another filibuster will cause the successful prosecution of the war. For by hog-tying Congress again by filibustering against the anti-poll tax bill, the southern senators will assuredly snarl critical legislation JUN 8 1943 prosecute the war else to help pass it, but it would also give encouragement to many Americans who are now wondering about the goodness and soundness of our democracy. Don't fail us this time," Franklin Roosevelt.

Meanwhile, it would be a mighty fine thing if President Roosevelt, who too often fails the nation when this kind of progressive legislation is at stake, would say a word in favor of the anti-poll tax bill. A word in favor of the bill from the President when his southern party members begin to give it the knife in the Senate would JUN 5 1943 only do more than anything

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

Tennessee's Contradiction

Tennessee's Supreme Court, in moving to void the action of the State legislature in its repeal of the state's Poll Tax law, sets a new precedent in jurisprudence. In fact, the majority opinion, represented by Justice Green, declared: "The action is supported by no precedent in the annals of Eighth or American Law and is unsound in principle."

Atlanta Daily World.

In the words of one writer, what the court held was that the legislature could not repeal its own act. In most states, on let us say, the Teen-age bill for young men in our armed forces to vote, our legislature had to consider and given sanction before even the people have an opportunity to show their pleasure or displeasure.

We believe that Jennings Perry summation of the poll tax struggle in Tennessee covers adequately all that needs to be said: "Men of common sense and easy conscience may whisper up the 'race question' as an expedient for the poll tax. This the the meat of every political boss in the poll-tax. This is the meat of every political boss in the poll-southern clique to whom the restriction of the electorate is simply a means to office and power. In Tennessee the population is 83 per cent white and the proportion of Negroes declines from census to census. Many of the Tennessee counties have no Negroes whatever, yet the people of these counties suffer equal and proportionate disfranchisement with all other sections.

Moreover, in Tennessee, and especially in the major cities which have a large Negro population, Negroes commonly vote in all elections, and have for years. The poll tax in fact has no bearing on the race question—save as a fear motif carefully cultivated by the machine bosses by word-of-mouth slyness and used by them as a lever to prevent the freezing of the whole citizenry.

ANTI-POLL TAX BILL

Christian Index

ON Tuesday, May 25, the House of Representatives of the United States Congress voted 265 to 110 to abolish the Southern Poll Tax after hours of bitter debate. The bill now goes to the Senate, where similar legislation was killed after its passage by the House during the last session of Congress. Its death was caused by a threatened filibuster.

Jackson, Tennessee

While the opposition speeches were at their height in the House a youthful sailor, Evan Owen Jones, 21 years of age of San Francisco, dressed in uniform sprang from his seat in the gallery and proceeded to address the house. Before he was removed from the chamber he stated in a loud voice: "I speak for thousands who can't be here. The Poll Tax is undemocratic. Colored men fight beside us on the ships and we don't ask them to pay poll tax. I came to see how democracy clicked. You are fighting the Civil war all over again in here."

During the debate Representative Francis P. Bolton, a republican from Ohio stated, "There is such a thing as a patriotic desire to see that America is true to herself. Who are we to talk about democracy when we suppress one group at home?"

The fight to maintain the Undemocratic Poll Tax Rule as well as such other rubbish in practice in America is but the death struggle of the "Die hard." But such must perish from our Nation.

Rights And Duties In A Democracy

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

By LUTHER P. JACKSON

Abolishing The Poll Tax

ONCE again the anti-poll tax bill is winding its way thru the halls of Congress. For a long time it rested in the judiciary committee, by force it was taken from this committee, and a few days ago it passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 265 to 110. Voting in opposition to the bill were the entire delegation from the poll tax states including the nine representatives from Virginia.



DR. JACKSON

The bill now goes to the Senate; first to one of its committees, and then to the Senate chamber proper. Here the bill will encounter violent opposition from southern senators. All the southern members of the House voting in opposition defended their action on the time-honored grounds that the bill is unconstitutional and violates the principle of states rights.

The southern vote on this measure shows history repeating itself. The southern delegation voted against all bills to limit slavery, they voted in favor of repealing all reconstruction measures after the downfall of reconstruction, they voted against the Lodge force bill of 1890, they lined up solidly against the several anti-lynching bills, and now they are fighting the anti-poll tax bill. Thus all bills designed to advance the Negro have met the same fate at the hands of members from Dixie.

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF

The vote on this measure shows history repeating itself also with respect to the legal grounds on which the southerners base their action. To southern statesmen all these measures and many others represent an invasion of states rights and a violation of the U. S. Constitution. Slavery was a question of "internal police," lynching is a crime against the states and not the United States, and suffrage is a political privilege created and granted to citizens only by the states. To them the poll tax lies entirely outside the purview of the federal government.

Southerners have yelled 'states rights" but they have done little to cure the existing evils by state action. With the possible exception of the passing of anti-lynching laws in a few southern states, this region has done nothing to correct the evils of which the bills in Congress have complained. For inaction on the poll tax the State of Virginia offers a shining example.

Various candidates for office have assailed the poll tax in their campaigns and anti-poll tax bills have been introduced in successive sessions of the General Assembly, but to date they have gotten no further than the committee stage. On each occasion the committees have refused to advance these bills to one of the houses for debate and a vote.

THOUSANDS NOT QUALIFIED TO VOTE

If however an anti-poll tax bill should pass the Virginia legislature next year and then be submitted to the people for their action, only a handful of Negroes will be qualified to vote to abolish this tax which northern members of Congress now claim is keeping them from the polls.

The poll tax is a limitation on suffrage (and I fondly hope to see it abolished), yet there are fully eleven thousand Negroes in Virginia who have never registered even though they have paid the tax and there are nearly 300,000 who have never paid the tax although perhaps 100,000 of this number are able to pay it.

The fault then is not entirely the poll tax, rather it is the complete absence of a voting consciousness among thousands upon thousands of colored citizens. Included in this multitude are many school teachers. Conditions in Virginia are of course paralleled by conditions in North Carolina and other states.

Fight we must to get the poll tax abolished both by Congress and by the states, but after winning this mere skirmish we must fight on to win the great battle of an aroused voting consciousness. Law and government control the destiny of mankind, but the framers of the law help only those who help themselves.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

PollTax Breeds Corruption In South, Charged

Negro House Democrat Levels Charge Before Senate Judicial Unit

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—(U.P.)—Poll tax laws have resulted in wholesale fraud and corruption in Federal elections, Representative William M. Dawson (D), Illinois, sole negro in Congress, contended today.

Appearing before a Senate judiciary subcommittee studying anti-poll tax legislation, he said the laws enable unscrupulous persons to entrench themselves and their appointees in office by purchasing poll tax receipts and manipulating other aspects of the system.

A poll tax is a voting qualification in eight Southern States. Bills to nullify that prerequisite have repeatedly been thwarted in Congress but the issue still is alive.

Lee Pressman, general CIO counsel also testified against the poll tax, telling the subcommittee the government has full power to prevent States from enacting voting prohibitions under the guise of setting up voting standards.

The States have sole authority to establish qualifications, he said, but the Federal government has the right to decide whether so-called standards are really standards or a device for disfranchisement.

Senator Carl A. Hatch (D), New Mexico, said a majority of the people favor abolition of the poll tax laws, including most members of Congress, but the undecided question is whether it should be accomplished by legislation or constitutional amendment.

Dawson said no honest persons who knows the "viciousness of the poll tax system believe the poll tax law now enforced in the eight States was adopted for the purpose of raising revenue."

"It was passed with the deliberate, vicious, undemocratic purpose of disfranchising large numbers of negroes and white people because of their economic status," he said.

Congress is facing a filibuster in the effort is the other group says: The war effort is being impeded by those poli-

Birmingham, Ala
Herald
Two Viewpoints

One group of senators says: The war taining to the war will be held up.

In any case, legislation directly per-

connection with the main job of a filibuster the will of the "people."

ning the war as soon as possible.

rt is being impeded by those poli-

There ought to be some better solu-

ns who insist on a discussion of tion of such problems.

controversial issue at this time.

The other group says: The war ef-

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Third Installment Of Senator Pepper's Address On Poll Tax Bill

The Informer JAN 2 - 1943

Houston, Tex.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: We present herewith the third installment of Senator Claude Pepper's (Florida) notable speech on the floor of the United States Senate, November 17, 1942. Because of its importance, and coming from a man born, reared and living in the deep South, and all of whose ancestors for more than 200 years were born, reared, lived and died in the South, we publish it from the Congressional Record as a matter of service to our readers.)

Mr. President, in the Constitutional Convention of 1787 there was a difference of opinion among the delegates, first as to whether the Federal Government should prescribe qualifications for Federal electors at all; secondly, whether the people should have the right to elect their Congressmen or whether the legislatures of the several States should do it. That was voted upon a number of times, but it was decided every time the vote was had that the people should elect their Congressmen. Popular franchise was the principle of democracy embodied in the constitutional provision.

JAN 2 1943

Then in June, when this decision was made, one of the delegates, Mr. King, made the point that if the States were allowed supreme power in the prescription of qualifications, the States would have the opportunity to adopt practices and principles of election subversive to the Nation itself, and he emphasized the numerous conflicts which would arise between the States and the Federal Government.

Finally, in August of that eventful year, 1787, there was a proposal before the Convention that the qualifications of the electors for Members of Congress should be those which should be prescribed from time to time in the several States for members of the most numerous branch of the State legislatures. That was objected to by Gouverneur Morris, who said that gave the States the power to thwart the Federal existence. There was never a vote on that exact language, to give the States authority from time to time to prescribe the qualifications of electors for Congressmen, but it is significant that when the Committee on Detail reported this proposal, which was considered on the 7th of August, to the Committee on Style and Arrangement, in view, I surmise, of the debate on the language "from time to time" contemplating a prospective fixation of electoral qualifications, the Committee on Style and Arrangement brought the language back in the form in which it now appears in the Constitution, and eliminated those prospectively suggested words. That is simply section 2 of article I of the Constitution.

Likewise, the Constitution provided that the times, places, and manner of holding elections should be determined by the Congress, except in certain limited ways having to do with the place of the election of Senators, indicating, therefore, that the Constitutional Convention did not discharge entirely into the hands of the States exclusive authority to define the qualifications of electors for Members of Congress, exclusive power to determine who might vote in Federal elections.

We all know, of course, that there were certain States which required a voter to be a freeholder, yet it was stated in the Convention by one of the delegates that eight of nine States had already removed that requirement; and, as was said by the Senator from Alabama, it was already recognized that the trend was toward the liberalization of the electorate. So that it was clearly within the contemplation of the framers of the Constitution that there would speedily come a time when the right of citizenship should be synonymous with the right to vote.

JAN 2 - 1943

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The time of the Senator from Florida has expired.

Mr. BARKLEY. Does the Senator desire additional time?

Mr. PEPPER. I should like a few minutes, if I might be indulged.

Mr. BARKLEY. Would the Senator like to have 15 minutes?

Mr. PEPPER. I think so.

Mr. BARKLEY. I yield 15 additional minutes to he Senator.

Mr. PEPPER. I thank my able leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida is recognized for 15 minutes.

JAN 2 1943

Mr. PEPPER. We have, of course, the statement of James Madison, speaking about the necessity of preserving the right of the people in a democracy to vote. We have even the statement of Alexander Hamilton, pointing out just how this provision was evenly balanced, to give the States primary authority to define qualifications and to give the supervisory power to the National Congress, obviously for the purpose of providing against abuses which the States might commit.

JAN 2 - 1943

At least the contemplation of the fore-fathers proved correct as regards the expanding nature of suffrage, because by the time of the Civil War only six States in the land had a poll tax as a condition precedent to voting, four in the North and two in the South. The poll tax was disappearing except in two States, Massachusetts, which abolished the poll tax in 1891, and Pennsylvania, which abolished it in 1933, until finally came the tragic era of reconstruction. Then there was set up a system of disfranchisment and discrimination. Some of the framers of the constitutions in the several States, or the proponents of the discriminatory statutes, were aiming at discrimination against the Negro vote, and I shall not be the one to criticize them for yielding to the necessity, with which they were faced, to commit an abuse in order to counteract more violent abuses leveled at them by their fellow countrymen who did not appreciate or understand their problems, or who sought to erect personal political prestige upon the wreckage of a vanquished people.

The whole drift and spirit of the time however has been away from that kind of condition precedent which puts voting not upon qualification but upon a cash consideration of having paid a sum of money.

JAN 2 - 1943

What is there about the payment of a poll tax that has to do with the qualification of a voter? The way the tax is devised, it is a dollar to a dollar and fifty cents a year in the eight States where it still exists. In some States the individual may be required to pay as much as $36 before he or she can vote. In other States it is $47 and more. Let me give a statement of the due dates for the payment of the poll tax.

In Alabama it must be paid on or before February 1. The primary is in the late spring or summer; the general election is in November, in the fall.

JAN 2 - 1943

In Arkansas it must be paid by the preceding October 1, when the primary occurs the succeeding May, generally, or the following November, a year hence.

In Georgia the tax must be paid 6 months before the election, primary or general.

In Mississippi it must be paid 30 days before election; in South Carolina 60 days before election; in Tennessee by February 1 of the year in which a primary occurs, which usually comes around May or June, or the election, which occurs in November.

Mr. STEWART. Mr. President, will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. PEPPER. I yield.

(To Be Continued)

Marcantonio Outlines Plan To Kill Poll Tax

Daily Worker New York, N. Y.

JAN 6 - 1943

A nation-wide campaign to insu the abolition of the infamous po tax this session of Congress w outlined yesterday by Congressma Vito Marcantonio, who will intr duce an anti-poll tax bill in t House of Representatives today.

The plan to abolish the poll t was described by Congressm Marcantonio as follows:

JAN 6 1943

OUTLINES PLAN

"I have already arranged introduction today of a bill to o law the poll-tax as a pre-requi of voting in federal elections. will be know as H. R. 7.

"To insure against a Senate f buster such as killed a similar in 1942, my plan is, with the h of the aroused people of the coun to secure passage of this bill in t first half of 1943. A year and half will be a long time for po tax Senators to carry on a filibust

"At the end of 30 legislative da I shall place a discharge petiti on the Speaker's desk, and t campaign to secure the requis 218 signatures of members of t House of Representatives to fo a vote in the House will beg Hearings in Committee on the would be superfluous. The bill been fully debated. Hearings wo merely delay passage.

JAN 6 - 194

"Every week, the people of country will be informed wh Congressmen have signed the d charge petition, and which h not. I am sure the people will to it, under these circumstan that the necessary 218 signat are obtained in short order.

"It is to expected that e parliamentary trick will be by the poll-taxers to prevent o delay passage of H. R. 7.

"I want to assure the people want this bill passed that e parliamentary manoeuver will be used to see that it is passed

"Quick passage in the House essential to eventual enactmen the anti-poll-tax bill into law. I am confident that with the whole-hearted support of the tremendous majority of the people of the country who recognize the necessity of passage of this law as a win-the-war measure, this quick action will be obtained and H. R. 7 will become law."

The Daily Worker New York, N. Y.

New Drive to End Poll Tax Gaining

JAN 5 1943

By Frank Ryhlick

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4. — The broad support for outlawing the poll tax and its far-reaching political significance, loomed impressively today before members of Congress arriving for the opening of the 78th session on Wednesday.

The number of Congressmen willing and even anxious to introduce an anti-poll tax measure was in startling contrast to the lean days of former sessions, when the bill had to go begging for support.

Among those who have signified readiness to introduce such a bill are Representatives Joseph Clark Baldwin, Progressive New York Republican; Estes Kefauver, a Tennessee Democrat whose state will soon abolish its own poll tax, and Vito Marcantonio, militant New Yorker who has long been in the front lines of the fight against the poll tax.

JAN 5 1943

PEPPER TO SPONSOR BILL

Senator Claude Pepper of Florida will again sponsor the bill in the upper chamber.

The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, through which labor, Negro and all other anti-poll tax forces have united, has already outlined the strategy for the campaign. This was done at a meeting last week, attended by representatives from the CIO, AFL, railroad Brotherhoods, the Negro organizations and various church groups.

JAN 5 1943

The meeting voted to concentrate its desire may introduce identical popular pressure behind the Pepper bills.

bill in the Senate and the Baldwin till in the House. It emphasized however, that the united support of all anti-poll tax bill sponsors would be needed to get the required number of signatures on a petition. Baldwin was designated as official sponsor of the measure for strategical reasons.

As soon as the anti-poll tax bill is introduced in the House, it will be referred to the Judiciary Committee. This committee is dominated by the aged poll taxer, Hatton W. Sumners of Texas, who sat on last session, plans to hold an anti-meet tomorrow, and the CIO will meet Friday.

The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, which brought the meetings will be held here this week. The AFL of passage in the and Railroad Brotherhoods will s to hold an anti-meet tomorrow, and the CIO will ce here the end of meet Friday.

CONFERENCE PLANNED

The anti-poll tax bill will receive additional impetus from two highly-important legislative conferences to Detroit in March. A representative of the committee will address a legislative conference at Lynchburg, Va., on Jan. 20.

JAN 5 1943

The anti-poll tax bill will receive additional impetus from two highly-important legislative conferences to be held here this week. The AFL and Railroad Brotherhoods will hold an anti-meet tomorrow, and the CIO will meet Friday.

State meetings will be held in New York on Feb. 5 and in that tomorrow's conference would be signed by 218 members of the

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

deal with methods of contacting members of Congress and obtaining their support for legislation backed by labor. AFL President William Green will address the conference, which will be held in executive session.

3 Anti-Poll Tax Bills Presented

"P. M. Daily" New York JAN 7 P.M.

More Due as Congressmen Vie for Honor of Abolishing Voting Restriction

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—Several Congressmen are competing for the honor of introducing legislation to abolish the poll tax and help extend democracy to 10,000,000 Southern citizens.

Three bills to abolish the poll tax in Federal elections went into the bill hopper of the House yesterday, on the first day of the session, and more are expected today.

The competition emphasized the high hopes held by opponents of the poll tax that public resentment over the filibuster which blocked repeal in the last Congress will bring quick action now.

Poll-tax Congressmen again are expected to do their best to block action on the reform. They control the House Judiciary Committee, to which such legislation is referred. But plans already are being made to force action by a petition to discharge the Committee.

JAN 7 1943

This is an uphill procedure, however, and the multiplicity of bills may hurt rather than help the effort. It takes 218 signatures of House members to get action on a discharge peition. Rivalry of various petitions might divide the anti-poll tax forces as they did for a while in the last Congress.

The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, which led the campaign in the last Congress to get signatures on the Pepper-Geyer bill, is trying to avoid this confusion and diversion of strength by supporting a bill by Rep. Joseph Clark Baldwin (R., N. Y.).

JAN 7 1943

Baldwin did not get his bill in yesterday, though, and three others got the jump on him. They were Reps. Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N. Y.); Joseph A. Gavagan (D., N. Y.) and George H. Bender (R., O.).

Bender issued a statement condemning the poll tax as a "feudal law" which "is a violation in principle of democracy."

"Property," Bender said, "is not a qualification of citizenship; nor is poverty a disqualification.

"Abolition of the poll tax is a war measure. Its abolition is essential to full mobilization of our human and spiritual resources. Hundreds of millions of oppressed people throughout the world are watching the actions of this Congress. **Let us give proof to them and to the world that we fight as a free and democratic people by abolishing the poll tax at this session of Congress."**

Southern Poll-Taxers May Carry Marcantonio Fight to House Floor

"P M Daily" New York PM 1/18/43

PM Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—Southern Democrats in the House are trying to override House rules to keep Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N. Y.) off the House Judiciary Committee.

Marcantonio, who has been given only minor committee assignments heretofore, applied for a place on the Judiciary Committee, to which he is entitled under the seniority rules that govern appointments.

After a bitter fight behind closed doors, the Democratic committee on committees approved the New Yorker's application by a narrow 9 to 6 vote. But the Southerners are threatening to carry the fight to the floor, where all committee assignments must be ratified.

PM 1/18/43

The Southerners are aroused because the Judiciary Committee is the one which handles anti-lynching and anti-poll tax bills. With eight Southerners among the 10 Democrats on the Committee and Hatton Summers (D., Tex.) as chairman, it always has succeeded in bottling up such legislation.

Marcantonio has introduced an anti-poll tax bill and is threatening to force it out by petition if the Committee does not act.

Both Summers and Rep. Hobbs (D., Ala.), who between them pretty well run the Judiciary Committee, expressed opposition to Marcantonio's selection. Summers cited the New Yorker's pro-Communist sympathies. But Rep. Charles E. McKenzie (D., La.) tipped off the reasoning of the Southerners.

"Both of these bills (anti-lynch and anti-poll tax) would come before the Judiciary Committee," McKenzie said, "and to put this man on the very Committee that would



Rep. Vito Marcantonio

PM 1/18/43

approve of these bills is just another New Deal effort to sabotage the white people of the South and will do untold damage to the Democratic Party in the South."

Marcantonio merely commented that after four terms in the House he felt that he was "entitled to an assignment on a decent committee."

The latest bidders for the honor of extending democracy are Reps. Joseph Clark Baldwin (R., N. Y.), whose bill is being supported by the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax; Warren G. Magnuson (D., Wash.), and Stephen A. Day (R., Ill.) Day obviously is playing for Negro votes in Chicago, as the other end of the Chicago *Tribune* Axis, Sen. W. Wayland (Curley) Brooks (R., Ill.) was doing last year when he stole Sen. Claude Pepper's bill.



Rep. Baldwin

The other three bills were introduced the first day of Congress by Reps. Vito Marcantonio (AL, N. Y.); Joseph A. Gavagan (D., N. Y.), and George H. Bender (R., O.)

Six Anti-Poll Tax Bills in Congress

"P. M. Daily" New York JAN 19 1943

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Six bills for repeal of the poll tax in Federal elections have been introduced in Congress. More are coming.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia JAN 21 1943

The Poll Tax

A bill has been introduced in the Georgia legislature, in the house, to abolish the poll tax as a requisite for voting in this state.

The bill is similar to the measure introduced in the last congress which caused nation-wide controversy and resulted in a filibuster in the closing days of the session by southern congressmen. At that time many southerners who opposed enactment of the congressional measure stated they did so, primarily, on the ground that it was not a subject for congressional action; that it was a matter for the states involved to settle for themselves. In other words, while not supporting the poll tax per se, they felt that its abolition by federal fiat would be an unwarranted violation of states' rights.

Georgia is now given the opportunity to decide for itself whether it wants the poll tax to remain in this state. JAN 21 1943

Abandoment of the poll tax would result in a loss, even though comparatively small, to the state revenue. At this time there is need for every penny the state can collect without increase of taxes. Yet it is quite possible that advantages to be gained by abolition of this tax would more than offset the loss in revenue, even in days of financial stringency.

The poll tax cannot be considered as a stumbling block to the citizen who really desires to cast a ballot. Yet those who wish to retain it undoubtedly base their opposition to its repeal more on outmoded precedent than on actual reason as applied to conditions of today. JAN 21 1943

Certainly, while there is any tax condition applied to the right of the ballot it cannot be said that this state enjoys truly democratic freedom of the ballot. But it is doubtful if repeal of the tax would ever have any effect upon elections in Georgia. The Democratic party would still be in full control of Democratic primaries and it is those primaries that decide the winning candidates and the winning issues in Georgia.

In any event, whether the poll tax should be retained or abandoned, it is but right that the state should decide for itself. It is emphatically not an issue for congress to decide.

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Poll Tax

Rogers Says:-

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

POLL TAX TYRANTS WILL MEET DEFEAT ERE LONG—EMBREE WARNS AMERICA

BY J. A. ROGERS

I HOPE that those of my friends who are moaning and groaning over the fate of the anti-poll tax bill will pardon me when I confess that I'm laughing aloud. I can't help it. Satire has always tickled me. If I find such huge cynical satisfaction in books as Anatole France's "Penguin Island" and "Cranquebille" and George S. Schuyler's "Black No More," think what it is when such high satire happens before one's very eyes. That filibuster in the United States Senate was the last word. Please remember, the Senate is called "The greatest deliberative body in the world."

Yes, it was rich. Here we are engaged in a war to down the forces of retrogression and evil as personified by Hitler, Mussolini and Hirohito—a war for the liberation of mankind that made that of 1914-18 look like a counterfeit dime with a hole in it—and up comes these jungle creatures and cavemen from the backwoods to put on an exhibition that personifies the very thing we are fighting against. And they won!



Mr. Rogers

MUST MAINTAIN CRACKER RULE

Please remember, too, that these same creatures hope to have a hand in making the peace. The world must be made safe for "cracker rule." After Hitler has been downed, we can well imagine them staging another filibuster to see that those slave conditions which existed in the South and in the British, French, Belgian and Dutch colonies long before Hitler, be maintained.

I'M laughing, too, because I know that Messrs. Bilbo, Connally, Ellender, et al, have over-played their hands. They have exposed themselves in all their horrible nakedness to the decent, right-thinking people of this nation at the wrong time.

TYRANTS WILL BE DEFEATED

As I thought on the exhibition of these men in the Senate, the following picture came to me. A man and his wife, highly placed, goes to a social affair at which they are very anxious to make a good impression. With them is their only child, a stinkingly spoiled brat. Just when the couple is strutting its stuff in order to win over more than ever the company, in steps the brat with his worst show-off and gums up the whole works. For the fond and doting parents that's the last straw and back home that evening we hear the spoiled brat hollering for mercy in the woodshed.

IN my laughter at those Senators is also much content America is going to take them to the political woodshed, sooner or later. If the big tyrants of history — the Caesars, Napoleons, George the Thirds, and Kaisers, who had whole nations with all their wealth behind them—went down to defeat, these microbe despots with a mere handful of semi-illiterates back of them, cannot win.

EMBREE WRITES

I have great faith in America when it becomes educated to what is right and just in this so-called race problem. A communication to this column from President Edwin R. Embree of the Julius Rosenwald fund, will, I feel, become the more general viewpoint before long. Pointing out that there are over a billion people of the darker races in the Allied camp: "If we do not force them into the enemies' camp" as well as 160 million Russians "passionately devoted to equality of all classes and cultures." Mr. Embree adds:

"TO those allies—if we are to win either the war or the peace—we must prove that we want democracy for all men, not merely for white men. We have already lost battles because we failed to make allies of millions of brown people who would have joined the fight if they had thought that victory for England or Holland or the United States meant freedom for them. We have lost the zeal of one-tenth of the American people because they cannot see any advance in their rights and opportunities even if the United Nations win. This war against totalitarian enemies can be won only by total demoeracy.

AMERICANS MUST DROP PREJUDICES

"America has given up one isolationist position. Even the stupidest among us now know that in the modern close and interdependent world the arms and economics of Europe and Asia are of direct concern to us. Now we have to learn that there cannot be isolation even in prejudices. We have to learn that freedom for India and the East Indies must be fought for as ardently as freedom for England or Holland, that democracy in China is all of a piece with democracy in Norway—and in Alabama.

"THE world is too small for the out-numbered white races to live by themselves; it is too large for the white minority to dominate. We must prove that we are willing to live in fellowship with other races or we must live in chaos. This war will be only a prelude to still more bitter and consuming wars until the great masses of now powerful colored peoples of the world are accepted into partnership."

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Poll Tax Ban To Be Lifted In Chattanooga's March Election

JAN 4 - 1943

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—(SNS)—According to a statement of Senator Elect Grubb, and Mr. J. B. Ragon all members of the delegation to the next General Assembly that will convene in Nashville, January 4, 1943 there will be no poll tax as a prerequisite for voting in the march 16th city election. Mr. D. M. Coleman and Mr. Edberdeth, members of the delegation, are understood will concur in the abolishment of the Poll Tax to vote in the city elections. The abolishment of the Poll tax will give city voters, their first opportunity to elect their city officials, without the payment of Poll tax.

JAN 4 - 1943

LARGE VOTE ANTICIPATED

With the announcement that city voters will not be compelled to pay a Poll Tax to vote, it is expected that one of the largest votes in History will be recorded in the coming city election. Mayor Bass who is seeking re-election, was the first city official to advocate the abolishment of Poll tax for the coming city election.

is seeking re-election, was the city

Tries to Block Tenn. Poll Tax Repeal

JAN 1 1 1943

Daily Worker, N.Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 10.—Boss Ed Crump of Memphis has raised the issue of permanent registration of all voters as a necessary substitute if the poll tax law of Tennessee is repealed—and Crump has rather effectively crucified hopes of repealing the state law at the new session of the General Assembly.

Although Crump protested he is in favor of the repeal of the poll tax law, he told his henchmen throughout the state that "it will be necessary to have a system of registration so that there will be a record of voters in all the counties."

In many of hte smaller counties the poll tax books are the only permanent records kept of voters, but there appears to be a deep prejudice among legislators from the smaller counties against a statewide registration system. Some of the rural representatives said they felt the permanent registration law might be more of a handicap to free voting than the poll tax restriction.

JAN 1 1 1943

The first bill introduced into the Senate of the 73rd Assembly District was offered by Senator W. French Grubb of Chattanooga and called for outright repeal of the poll tax law.

Gov. Prentice Cooper is preparing a similar bill that will be introduced as an administration measure.

Georgia Gets Anti-Poll Tax Bill in House

Daily Worker

(Special to the Daily Worker)

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 24.—Declaring that the poll tax law was "at the bottom of political corruption and is a tool of the politicians," Rep. J. Bush Mims of Conuitt, Ga. has introduced a bill in the state legislature calling for repeal of the tax as a prerequisite to voting.

Mims and Rep. John L. Drake of Bainbridge, co-sponsors of the bill, sought vainly for passage of an identical measure in the 1941 Georgia legislature.

At the same time administration supporters introduced a bill lowering the voting age from 21 to 18 years, contending that "if they are old enough to fight at 18, then they're old enough to have a voice in the policies of running their country."

JAN 25 1943

New York, N. Y.

Congressman Marcantonio Announces Plan To Introduce Anti-Poll Tax Bill Jan. 6th

JAN 9 1943

A plan to pass the anti-poll-taxand a half will be a long time for bill in 1943 was announced Mon-poll-tax Senators to carry on a day by Congressman Vito Marcan- filibuster. JAN 9 - 1943

tonio (ALP. N.Y.) in the following statement:

"I have already arranged the introduction, on January 6, of a bill to outlaw the poll-tax as a pre-requisite of voting in federal elections. It will be known as H R. 7. ?

"To insure against a Senate filibuster such as killed a similar bill in 1942, my plan is, with the help of the aroused people of the country to secure passage of this bill in the first half of 1943. A yearcharge petition, and which have will also be

"At the end of 30 legislative days, I shall place a discharge petition on the Speaker's desk, and

"I am sure the people will see to it, under these circumstances, that the necessary 218 signatures to be obtained in short ordrr. "Quick passage in the House is essential to the eventual enactment of the anti-poll-tax bill into law.

I am confident that with the poll-taxers to prevent or to tremendous majority of the people passage of H. R. 7. of the country who recognize the want to assure the people necessity of passage of this law as want this bill passed, that a win-the-wai measure, this quick parliamentary manoeuver action will be cbtained and H. R. 7

also be used to see that it is will become law."

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Southern AFL War Parley Demands End of Poll Tax

"Daily Worker," New York, N Y

JAN 20 1943

By Rob F. Hall
(Special to the Daily Worker)

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 19.—The Southern War Labor Conference of the American Federation of Labor adjourned late yesterday after adopting a declaration of principles aimed at "more intensive prosecution of the war against the enemies of freedom." It called for abolition of the poll tax and for a "condition of absolute equal rights on job and job opportunities without any discrimination whatsoever between workers on account of race,, creed or color."

A report of the credentials committee revealed that more than 3,000 delegates from 12 states, as well as a thousand visitors were in attendance. The Atlanta World, Negro newspaper, said that 300 of the delegates were Negroes.

The declaration was drafted by a policy committee composed of the presidents and secretaries of the 12 state federations, an equal number of international officers, and nine Negro A. F. of L. leaders.

JAN 20 1943

DENOUNCE POLL TAX

The section dealing with the poll tax said:

"It is neither fair nor just nor honest in any government claiming to be established as a government of the people . . . to place a monetary condition upon a sovereign citizen in the free exercise of his franchise. Therefore the Southern War Labor Conference here assembled urges a continued fight by the AFL for the repeal of the poll tax."

The section on Negro rights recalled that the AFL was founded "on the fundamental principle that the organized labor movement . . . was devoted and dedicated to the high and holy purpose of the advancement and protection and well-being of all wage earners without regard to race, creed or color."

The declaration then recounted the gains made by the Negro people in the hard struggle up from chattel slavery. "Geniuses have been developed," the declaration said, "geniuses who made great contributions to science and to this country and to the world." The labor movement, it said, must serve the workers "without regard to race, color or creed."

JAN 20 1943

REAFFIRM WAR PLEDGES

Other salient points in the declaration of principles included:

1. The conference reaffirmed its no-strike pledge, called attention to the fact that there had been no strikes on any war project under AFL contract in these 12 states, and warned employers against taking advantage of this no-strike policy to ignore workers' grievances.

2. Adequate representation of labor on government war boards and war agencies, was demanded.

3. Pointing to the hardships which labor has suffered in meeting production schedules, its willingness to work overtime, its contribution of men to the armed forces, the conference demanded that no anti-labor legislation be adopted by Congress or the state legislatures.

4. The conference opposed compulsory savings laws but pledged an ever-increasing voluntary purchase of war bonds and stamps.

5. Present minimum wages established under the Fair Labor Standards Act were designated as substandard and insufficient for a fair standard of living. Increases in these rates should be permitted without recourse to the Little Steel yardstick or to the War Labor Board, the conference said, whenever labor and management agree to such essential increases.

JAN 20 1943

"Such a provision would relieve the WLB of a large part of its work and in part solve the problems of the low wage group caused by the terrific increased cost of living, and at the same time would be beneficial to employers who are losing much of their best labor to the war industries."

6. The conference noted "with keen delight the ever-increasing number of white collar workers affiliating with the unions of the AFL," but declared that "the field has hardly been touched."

7. The conference went on record for a post-war public works program to build hard-surfaced highways over every road travelled by RFD mail carriers.

JAN 2[illegible]

8. The conference urged continued support to the International Labor Office and larger appropriations to enable the ILO to expand its work.

CALLS FOR NEGRO EQUALITY

The declaration of principle was adopted unanimously without dissent, and no delegate took advantage of the discussion period to take the floor on the report. But after the final vote, "Uncle Bob" Weyler, Southern representative of the Carpenters and chairman of the policy committee, went to the microphone to underline the section of the report dealing with the Negro question.

JAN 20 1943

"I am a Southerner by birth and by choice," he said, "and I have been scandalized for 40 years as I went up and down the South by the hullabaloo raised against Negroes on jobs."

"We have moved the Southern wage differential off the back of Dixie," he said, "and we are going to move the barriers against the colored brothers."

Denying that discrimination against Negroes had existed on a large scale in the carpenters union, he said:

"We took the Negro by the hand and pulled him up out of the ditch. And we had to. If we hadn't, he would have caught us by the coat tail and pulled us back into the ditch with him."

He declared that the question of social equality was not involved.

"The CIO takes in the Negroes and makes us like it," he said. "We are going to take them in and make everybody like it."

TAKES STRONG STAND

Earlier this question had been dealt with by Dan Ring, director of labor relations for the National Maritime Commission. "Some people say this is a delicate question which shouldn't be discussed, especially here in Atlanta," said Mr. Ring. "But I say it is these so-called delicate questions that must be discussed to be cleared up.

"We have a free country, and that means that every one must have the freedom to make his contribution in the economic world and to the progress of the country and to receive just compensation for it. The color of his skin doesn't matter. . . . This country needs workers, and it must not be impeded by any barriers of race, creed, color or national origin.

JAN 20 1943

"These are the words of President Roosevelt's executive order. Let's take these words home and put them into actual practice. We cannot tolerate discrimination."

Mr. Ring also discussed the problem of absenteeism. During the week of November 15, he said, in the shipyards with maritime commission contract, absenteeism cost 2,109,551 man hours, which is enough to build four 10,000-ton ships. More than half of these absences were completely unexplained, he said.

SOUTH IS ON THE MARCH

L. Metcalfe Walling, administrator of the Wage-Hour division, made one of the most significant contributions of the day. In proportion to the number of workers involved, he said, there were more inquiries from Southern industrialists, looking toward raising wages, than in any other part of the country.

JAN 20 1943

He suggested that this was due partly to inter-regional competition for manpower but also to increased organization by labor.

"But whatever the reason," he said, "something is stirring here. The New South is on the march."

"Basically, there never was any reason for a differential in wages between the North and the South. There certainly was never any reason based on the efficiency of the workers themselves."

In 1938, he said, there was considerable fear expressed that setting minimum wages would be the ruin of Southern industry. These fears, he said, never were realized.

Meeting the challenge of the anti-labor bloc which aims to destroy the 40-hour week, Mr. Walling said:

JAN 20 1943

"Agitation for repeal of the overtime provisions, under whatever guise, is an effort to change the whole basis of the wage structure under stabilization for a very large number of our workers, before our stabilization program has even had a fair chance to work.

"You know that overtime pay does not limit war production and that the war industries have almost universally scheduled shifts of 48 and even 60 hours a week. In view of the present savings in overhead costs, the payment of the overtime premium for work beyond 40 hours has not raised the unit cost of producing our tanks, guns and planes to the taxpayer."

Walling then quoted two employers of labor, George Christopher, president of Packard and Henry E. Warren of Telechron Clock Co., who have been outspoken against any change in the 40-hour legislation.

Other speakers included Charles Murchison, regional director for the Office of Civilian Defense, who read a prepared message from James E. Landis, and Joe McDonough, secretary of the Metal Trades Department.

JAN 20 1943

McDonough heatedly attacked NLRB as "one of the government agencies sniping against the AFL." He cited the cases of Kaiser and the McCloskey Shipyard at Tampa where, he said, the CIO and government agents were "trying to promote ideologies and build a political labor movement to take over the country."

Southern Negroes Urge Abolishing Of Racial Laws

NORFOLK, Va., Dec. 15.—(U.P.)—A committee of southern Negroes has proposed that poll taxes, white-only primary elections, Jim Crow laws and other barriers between white and Negro races be abolished.

The proposal is contained in a report which the committee, composed of ten men, made for the Southern Race Relations conference.

Members of the committee are mostly educators, but include Ernest Belpit, New Orleans Negro labor leader, and P. B. Young, president of the Norfolk Journal and Guide.

The committee suggests its proposal as a solution for race issues which, it claims, are acute and threaten to become more serious as a result of war conditions.

The chief points of the program call for abolition of the poll tax and white primaries; recognition of the Negro's right to serve on juries and to obtain equal accommodation with whites on trains and other public carriers, and to have equal educational facilities and opportunities in professional work.

It is true, of course, that most states have repealed the poll-tax requirements for voting, and that the eight holdout states would do well to repeal it. But to force repeal from Washington would necessitate a validation of the right by the Supreme Court.

As time affords the advantage of a fair judgment of the filibuster, the general conclusion may be that the Southern senators made two good contributions to a settlement of the issue—they drew attention to the infringement of Negro rights in the South, and they helped to preserve the sovereignty of the states.—Indian-

pressure exerted for

its adoption aroused more than a suspicion that the deception was deliberate, and that the

true purpose of the bill was to establish the

right of the federal government to define all the qualifications of voters, which is one of the aspirations of the totalitarians

stroy the states.

The poll-tax requirement for voters in eight

discriminate against

under consideration, both in the House, which Negroes. All qualified electors

passed it, and in the Senate, it was grossly mis- cast a ballot are required to pa

Birmingham, Ala. News
December 26, 1943

Poll-Tax Bill's True Nature

Now that the poll-tax bill has been laid aside for the session, and will die with this Congress, its true nature is being examined. While it was under consideration, both in the House, which passed it, and in the Senate, it was grossly mis-

52e-1943
Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

POLL TAX

Poll Tax Opponents Unite For Congressional Victory

JAN 8 - 1943

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7—The long, uphill battle to eliminate the poll tax as a prerequisite for voting begins anew on the first day of the new session of Congress.

The CIO, the AFL, the Railroad Brotherhoods, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, the Negro and liberal press, as well as many of the congressional champions of democracy including Congressman Vito Marcantonio and Senator Claude Pepper have all served notice this week that they have just begun to fight.

A REPUBLICAN WILL INTRODUCE BILL

In order to give the drive a bi-partisan complex, Rep. Joseph Clark Baldwin, a New York Republican, will introduce the legislation in the House this time. Realizing that the House Judiciary Committee may again balk on releasing the bill, proponents of the measure will follow up immediately with a petition to discharge the committee and force the bill before the House.

It took a year to get the needed 218 signatures last year but this time the backers plan to take the fight directly to the people and arouse public opinion behind the slow moving Congress.

Already several mass meetings have been organized in different sections of the country.

Backers are confident that with the wholehearted support of the tremendous majority of the country who recognize the necessity of passage of this law as a win-the-war measure, quick action can be obtained and citizens will not be subjected to the disgraceful filibustering of 1942.

AFL TO SEEK REPEAL OF DIXIE POLL TAX

BULLETIN: WASHINGTON D.C., Jan. 7 — The American Federation of Labor through its president, Wm. Green this week announced its legislative goals for 1943. Among the items listed for presentation before the new Congress is "repeal of the Poll Tax."

Birmingham, Ala. News
January 6, 1943

Poll Taxes, Lynching, Service Men Subjects Of Bills In Congress

Fiscal Reform Is Also Covered In Measures Offered Opening Day

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Service men, fiscal reform, poll taxes and lynching were major subjects of legislative proposals introduced Wednesday in the House as the 78th Congress officially convened.

More than 150 bills covering a wide variety of subjects were introduced in advance by reelected members and tossed into the hopper on opening day so they would receive low numbers. All bills are numbered consecutively on their order of introduction and the total climbs into the thousands before the end of the average session.

Representative Patman (D., Tex.) had the distinction of offering "House bill No. 1." It was a proposal for the issuance of non-negotiable bonds to Federal Reserve Banks and to terminate the treasury's power to issue interest-bearing obligations. It would, Patman said, save untold millions which the government now pays in interest.

A bill embracing the Ruml pay-as-you-go plan for federal income tax collections was offered by Representative Carlson (R., Kan.).

A constitutional amendment to lower the voting age from 21 years to 18, the minimum draft age, was proposed by Representative Fish (R., N. Y.).

* * *

BILLS OFFERED by Representatives Lynch (D., N. Y.) and Van Zandt (R., Pa.) would continue the pay of men in the armed forces beyond the end of the war. Lynch proposed continuance of pay for one year after discharge, Van Zandt for six months.

Legislation intended to set up machinery guaranteeing employment to enlisted men after their discharge was introduced by Representative Keogh (D., N. Y.), while from Representative Heffernan (D., N. Y.) came a bill to provide free laundry and dry cleaning service to the nation's fighting men.

To help service men build up a nest egg for their return to civilian life, Representative Voorhis (D., Calif.) proposed that Uncle Sam match, dollar-for-dollar, the savings of enlisted men. The matching would be done with bonds.

Voorhis also introduced legislation to outlaw employment of "dollar-a-year men" by the government and to require payment of "reasonable" compensation for all of Uncle Sam's workers.

Requirements of many Southern states for the payment of poll taxes before a voter may cast ballot in a primary or a general election involving a federal office would be nullified by bills introduced by Representatives Gavagan (D., N. Y.) and Marcantonio (Am.-Lab., N. Y.) Gavagan also introduced the controversial anti-lynching bill which would make lynching punishable as a federal offense.

* * *

FISCAL REFORMS were embodied in bills drafted by Representatives Dirksen (R., Ill.) and Lanham (D., Tex.). Dirksen proposed creation of a federal efficiency service in the general accounting office to serve as a watchdog on government expenses. Lanham's bill would create an office of fiscal investigations to find out where the taxpayers' money goes and whether it ought to keep going there.

Legislation to prohibit federal agencies, such as OPA, from requiring periodic inspection and registration of automobile tires was offered by Representative Manasco (D., Ala.), who said the present tire inspection program is "silly."

Repeal of the 1934 silver purchase act was sought in legislation introduced by Representative Treadway (R., Mass.), while an increase of 25 per cent in annuities payable under the railroad retirement act was proposed by Representative Burdick (R., N. D.).

Representative O'Brien (D., Mich.) touched off the old controversy over unification of the armed forces by introducing a bill to create a department of national defense, made up of co-equal divisions of air warfare, the Army and Navy.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Bill to Be Pushed This Year Despite Southern Warnings

JAN - 4 1943

By William F. Arbogast
Associated Press Staff Writer

In the face of warnings by Southern Democrats that the action might turn the slim Democratic majority in the House into a minority, Representative Marcantonio (American Labor) of New York announced yesterday "a plan to pass the antipoll tax bill in 1943."

He has drafted for immediate introduction when Congress convenes Wednesday a bill that would outlaw the poll tax, levied in some Southern States, as a prerequisite of voting for Federal officials. A similar measure was passed by the House last session after a bitter fight, but was killed in the Senate by a filibuster such as has blocked antilynching legislation in past years.

Marcantonio said he could thwart a Senate filibuster this year by obtaining House action on the bill early in the session. He announced he would file a discharge petition in February to force the bill to the floor from committee and said there was no doubt the necessary 218 signatures would be obtained.

"Every week," he promised, "the people of the country will be informed which Congressmen have signed the discharge petition and which have not. I am sure the people will see to it, under these circumstances, that the necessary 218 signatures are obtained in short order."

JAN - 4 1943

Predicting House passage by June, Marcantonio commented that "a year and a half will be a long time for poll-tax Senators to carry on a filibuster.

Southerners warned that they would hold the Democratic leadership responsible for the legislation. One influential Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, who preferred to remain anonymous, added that many Southern Democrats would feel justified in joining Republicans in supporting legislation "aimed solely at the South."

They conceded that the chances of blocking poll-tax and anti-lynching legislation in the House were slim, but expressed confidence of stopping it in the Senate.

While hesitating to predict an outright bolt of Southerners from Democratic voting ranks in the House, Manasco (Democrat) of Alabama commented that there were in the neighborhood of 100 House members from Southern States. The Democratic leadership is counting heavily on Southerners to retain control in the closely split new House, where the Democratic majority was whittled to 13 in the November elections.

Tennessee Anti-Poll Tax Body Set Up

Daily Worker, N.Y.

JAN 21 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 20.—Progressive men and women of Davidson County have formed the Davidson County Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax and are appealing to the people of this state to support the anti-poll tax bills recently introduced in the state legislature to outlaw the poll tax in Tennessee.

The Committee in a statement broadcast to voters throughout Tennessee declares they should:

1. Telegraph or write their representatives in the State House and Senate at Nashville urging support of House Bill No. 1 and of Senate Bill No. 1.

2. Write a special letter to Hon. French Grubb, chairman of the State Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections, urging a favorable report on S.B. 1.

3. Write to their local newspapers requesting all voters to pay special attention to the votes of their representatives on the poll-tax issue. JAN 21 1943

4. Have their organizations telegraph or write to their representatives in the State Senate and House and to French Grubb, sending copies of letters to the press.

5. Send copies of all telegrams and letters to the Davidson Committee for Repeal of the Poll Tax in Tennessee, Room 507, Presbyterian Building, Nashville.

Members of the Committee include Dr. Thomas C. Barr, Pastor of Belmont Presbyterian Baptist Church; Dr. Albert E. Barnett, Professor of New Testament, Scarritt College; Dr. John K. Benton, Dean of the School of Religion, Vanderbilt University; M. W. Day, editor, Nashville Globe; Dr. W. H. Faulkner, Dean of Men, Fisk University; W. W. Johnson, Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen; Leon Jourolman, Tennessee Commissioner of Public Utilities; F. L. Medlin, secretary, Tennessee Federation of Labor; Jennings Perry, editor, Nashville Tennessean; Grant Williams, Textile Workers Union of America.

JAN 5 - 1943

Legislation Is Offered By Hamilton Group

NASHVILLE, Tenn.— (SNS) — The first legislation to be introduced in both houses as Tennessee's 73rd general assembly convened Monday was a bill for repeal of the poll tax.

The bill, offered by Hamilton county delegation, would provide for repeal of sections of the Tennessee code making mandatory tax assessments, paying, collection and disposition of poll taxes; the use of poll tax receipts for voting purposes and for punishment of violation of said sections and acts."

Three other poll tax repeal measures were also introduced.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Poll Tax Bills Introduced In Tenn. Assembly

Marcantonio vs. Poll Taxers

"Daily Worker," New York, N. Y.

JAN 21 1943

By Mac Gordon

It was a weird performance that the Democratic caucus in the House of Representatives staged the other day.

If there is one man in Congress who can be said to represent the people it is Vito Marcantonio, of the 20th district. So tremendous is his support among the people that powerful political forces in New York City who opposed his candidacy could muster only a corporal's guard in opposition to him among the citizens in his constituency in the primary elections on any ticket. He swept the Republican and American Labor Party primaries by 9 and 8 to 1, respectively, and the Democratic primary by 2½ to 1. He had no opposition in the general election. Let us keep in mind that there is no poll tax in the 20th Congressional District. The bulk of the adult citizenry vote.

KEY POSITION

Leading Democrats, in recognition of the fact that Marcantonio and his party, the American Labor Party, strongly support the Administration's win-the-war and New Deal policies, wanted to place him on the key judiciary committee of the House. His nomination was blocked by a handful of poll taxers who by no stretch of the imagination can be said to represent the people of their districts.

In contrast to the almost unanimous support that Marcantonio receives from the people of his constituency, most of those who blocked his nomination come from districts where 90 per cent and, in some cases, 95 per cent of the people are disfranchised. John Rankin of Mississippi, a leader in the fight against Marcantonio, was returned to Congress in 1940, for instance, by 7.3 per cent of his constituents. This, in a Presidential election year.

Thus, a group of plutocratic gentlemen who control this vital Congressional committee have thus far succeeded in keeping off a genuine representative of the people, in order that they may perpetuate their influence over the nation, and block the action needed to rally the resources of the nation for total war.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

HOUSE GETS 4 PROPOSED BILLS IN DAY

JAN 16 1943

Baldwin, Pepper Offers Supported By National Poll Tax Committee

JAN 16 1943

WASHINGTON — A full scale offensive against the poll tax was launched in Congress last week with solons virtually falling over themselves to have the honor of introducing the first anti-poll tax measure.

Exactly who introduced the first bill however, was relegated to the background as it became evident that members of both branches of Congress were anxious to push the legislation through despite opposition from the Dixie bloc and the threat of a new filibuster.

The competition emphasized the high hopes held by opponents of the poll tax that public resentment over the filibuster which blocked repeal in the last Congress will bring quick action now.

Plan Petition

Poll-tax Congressmen again are expected to do their best to block action on the reform. They control the House Judiciary Committee, to which such legislation is referred. But plans already are being made to force action by a petition to discharge the Committee.

This is an uphill procedure, however, and the multiplicity of bills may hurt rather than help the effort. It takes 218 signatures of House members to get action on a discharge petition. Rivalry of various petitions might divide the anti-poll tax forces as they d for a while in the last Congress.

JAN 16 1943

Back Baldwin Bill

The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, which led the campaign in the last Congress to get signatures on the Pepper-Geyer bill, is trying to avoid this confusion and diversion of strength by supporting a bill by Rep. Joseph Clark Baldwin (R., N. Y.).

Other bills were introduced by Reps. Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N. Y.); Joseph A. Gavagan (D., N. Y.), and George H. Bender (R., O.).

Senator Claude Pepper of Florida will again sponsor the bill in the upper chamber.

The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, through which labor, Negro and all other anti-poll tax forces have united, has already outlined the strategy for the campaign. This was done at a meeting last week, attended by representatives from the CIO, AFL, railroad brotherhoods, the Negro organizations and various church groups.

CIO, AFL Support

The committee plans to hold an anti-poll tax conference here the end of February. State meetings will be held in New York on February 5 and in Detroit in March. A representative of the committee will address a legislative conference at Lynchburg, Va., on January 20.

JAN 16 1943

Both CIO and AFL legislative conferences last week decided to push the drive to abolish the poll tax. The CIO resolution said:

"The past year has seen significant advances in the fight for the extension of democracy in the poll tax states. Posing the issue as a matter of war necessity to solidify our ranks and defeat enemy propaganda, the CIO has played a leading role in the movement to secure federal legislation outlawing the poll tax.

"The CIO pledges itself to an all-out drive to secure the early enactment of this bill and to eliminate, once and for all, the denial in the poll tax states to hundreds of thousands of American citizens, Negro and white, of their fundamental right to vote."

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Poll Tax Issue Greets Solons Of Tennessee

JAN - 5 1943

Repeal Measure Is First Bill Introduced in Assembly

JAN - 5 1943

NASHVILLE, Jan. 4.—(AP)—The first legislation introduced in both houses as Tennessee's 73d general assembly convened today was a bill for repeal of the machinery to collect the state poll tax.

The bill, offered by the Hamilton county delegation, would provide for repeal of sections of the Tennessee code making mandatory tax "assessments, paying, collection and disposition of poll taxes; the use of poll tax receipts for voting purposes and for punishment of violation of said sections and acts."

Three other poll tax repeal measures were also introduced.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Miners Aid Demo Fund To Rebuff Poll Taxers

JAN 16 1943

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Giving the lie to Horace C. Wilkerson rabid Negro-baiter and head of the League for White Supremacy, Inc., who is waging an Alabama insurrection against President Roosevelt's war leadership, 600 miners from the Bessemer red ore fields, both white and Negro, last week gave unmistakable proof of their faith in the New Deal's fair treatment of Negroes.

As a direct challenge to the statement that Alabama Democrats wouldn't "fork up" funds for the party until the President, Mrs. Roosevelt and the administration changed their sympathetic attitude toward the Negro, the 600 miners collected $516.92 and it was sent to the Democratic National committee through Senator Uster Hill (D., Ala.) with a letter pledging "more to come."

JAN 16 1943

Collection of the big fund was directed by the Bessemer council of the CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union. It answered the challenge of Gessner T. McCorvey titular head of the Democratic party in Alabama and a leader in the "white supremacy" revolt against the New Deal.

Pledge To FDR

Howard Mooney, CIO Council president, said: "This first sum is a token of what the people of Alabama, the rank-and-file Democrats of the State, are ready to contribute in money, effort and devotion in support of President Roosevelt and his war policies of victory."

The letter, signed by all the contributors, attacked former Governor Frank M. Dixon, "White Supremacy" Wilkinson, Boss McCorvey, Reps. Sam Hobbs and Joe Starnes and other State Democratic bosses for threatening to "secede" from the national Democratic party.

At the last session of Congress, McCorvey fought the anti-poll tax bill and protested against New Deal attempts to eliminate anti-Negro job discrimination in the South. Action of the miners in pledging their loyalty through their dollars to President Roosevelt, has raised the dander of both Wilkinson and McCorvey.

JAN 16 1943

Would Exclude Negroes

Wilkinson, addressing the Ensley Kiwanis club last Thursday, was vitriolic in his attack on the New Deal and on Negro workers being integrated in the war industry, which he described as "making the Negro an economic menace." He shouted: "The reason we exclude Asiatics from America is an economic reason," and he concluded that statement by saying "it may be necessary to exclude the Negro from America for economic reasons."

Wilkinson said he was directing his attack against democracy in America to offset "the mulatto menace," and the "amalgamation of races" which he says is being forced on the South by "mulatto escapists and their white companions in

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Tennessee Poll Tax Repealer Hit by Judge

MAY 8 1943

BENTON, Tenn., May 7.—(AP)—Repeal of Tennessee's half-century-old poll tax by the 1943 general assembly was declared unconstitutional today in an opinion by Chancellor T. L. Stewart in Polk county chancery court.

The opinion also declared unconstitutional the companion act setting up a permanent system for state-wide registration of voters.

Thus, the defeatists, were they successful, would drive a wedge between the President and the New Deal supporters of the South, cripple the war industry and discredit the entire Administration.

Would Bar Votes

Then, throwing caution to the . . . influence to vote or undertake to government to the . . . influence the election of electors for President," Wilkinson made a vicious attack on the Administration, declaring: "The next objective of the Democratic party is trying to exploit the long-standing prejudices of the South and are to throw the election of the President into the House of Representatives here declare the Wilkinson-Dixon-McCorvey hierarchy plan the war industry and discredit the flame by making it appear that the "administration's secret ambition of these pressure groups whose activities are centered in Washington where they are undertaking to make the federal government accessory to the crime."

JAN 16 1943

Washington, Elaborating, Wilkinson declared: "Unhappy and unattainable is the ultimate aim and dent of the Negro question" will be of social equality and ultimate amalgamation are being urged upon white people of America must be the destruction of the white supremacy" of the marriage, and the destruction of segregation is the ultimate aim and dent into the South, crippling secret ambition of these pressure groups whose activities are centered in Washington where they are undertaking to make the federal government accessory to the crime."

52e-1943

Congressmen Out To Kill Anti-Poll Tax, Lynch Bills

Houston, Texas

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Friday a group of Mississipp and Louisiana Congressmen fired the first volley of the 78th Congress at the anti-poll tax and ani-lynch bills, and in no uncertain terms told the world that "We believe in white supremacy. The white race rules the South and will continue to rule the South regardless of the attempts of any organization or individual to foist upon us the equality of races."

JAN 23 1943

Ignoring the issues of the present war and the sentiments of the darker races fighting in it, including 13 million colored Americans, these poll-taxers followed the lead of Senators Allen J. Ellender of Louisiana and Theodore G. Bilbo of Mississippi in branding the measures as threats against the South's system of white supremacy.

In condemning the newly-proposed measures introduced last week into the 78th Congress, one senator termed them as "practically treason" while another declared that he would be ready to "go in the trenches" to prevent the bills from passing. Senator Bilbo, of Mississippi, who has gained much fame as the arch-enemy of anti-lynch legislation, said he is prepared to filibuster for 60 days or more if necessary.

Leading the Louisiana group was

Louisiana's Pride"

Senator Allen J. Ellender, pride of the state's political machine and a veteran of several anti-lynch congressional battles.

"I am unalterably opposed to both measures," he said with reference to the anti-lynch and anti-poll tax bills, "and if it requires a 'Verdun' to keep them from becoming law, I'll be in the trenches fighting."

JAN 23 1943

Mississippi Speaks

Voicing his condemnation of the two congressional measures, Senator Bilbo stated, "Since these bills have been re-introduced, it is evident that these crackpots will try to push this unconstitutional legislation down our throats. I have already prepared enough material to filibuster 60 days or more if necessary."

Following the lead of his fellow Mississippian, Senator Eastland said, "In times of grave national emergency it is practically treason to offer legislation which seeks for political expediency to punish any section of the country. The professional and political advocates of social equality are in for a rude awakening. The day has passed when the democratic party or any other party can kick the South around."

"We are loyal Americans," Senator Eastland continued. "We believe in white supremacy. The white race rules the South and will continue to rule the South regardless of the attempts of any organization or individual to foist upon us the equality of races. Political equality and social equality cannot be separated. One leads to the other."

JAN 23 1943

Other Lawmakers Comment

Comments from other outstanding Louisiana congressmen in the unprecedented simultaneous assault on proposed legislation were recorded as follows:

Said F. Edwin Hebert of New Orleans: "I am a firm believer in state's rights and there is no reason why I should change my opinion now. I have said before and repeat now, let the South settle its own problems without interference from Congress or agitators beyond the Mason-Dixon line who don't know anything about the South and its conditions. We can take care of our own affairs and we intend to do it in a realistic and not a theoretical manner."

JAN 23 1943

Congressman Paul F. Maloney, also of New Orleans, expressed his sentiment: "We believe that the poll tax is unnecessary and in our state have repealed the law . . . As for the anti lynching proposal—we don't believe this is any time for that kind of thing."

"Equality Will Never Come"

Among other Louisiana congressmen who expressed themselves against the new legislation were Domengeaux, Brooks, McKenzie, Larcade, and Jimmie Morrison. Most significant were the statements of Domengeaux and Morrison.

POLL TAX

Said Congressman Domengeaux, "This is another attempt to destroy white supremacy in the South and it is time that the 'lovers of the color' realize that the race problem in the southern states can be solved only by the southern white man and the Negro of that section. While I hold no brief for the poll tax bill one way or the other, I regard either creation or abolishment of such tax to be distinctly a matter for each state to decide."

Congressman Morrison, of the St. Tammany district, was quoted as follows:

JAN 23 1943

"It looks as though they're using this Congress as an excuse because of war to pass legislation which will be detrimental to the people as a whole and to the state's rights. Any attempt to pass this sort of legislation is ill-advised, ill-conceived, and as a result, will be ill-fated. We in the South can handle our race problems with comparative ease and all races there from all appearances are more contented than in other parts of the country. I don't believe in persecution

"I believe America is the greatest nation because it gives all people an opportunity still, and there never has been and never will be a day in Louisiana where the Negroes will be equal to the whites. It is unfortunate that at such critical times certain politicians and selfish groups are attempting to take advantage of the American public. I plan vigorous opposition to both bills."

"Lynch Law to Hinder"

Contending that anti-lynch and anti-poll tax laws interfered with their rights and privileges, practically every congressman from Mississippi followed the example of Senators Bilbo and Eastland of that state, and voiced bitter denunciation of the proposals.

Expressions of the leading Mississippi solons were recorded as follows:

JAN 23 1943

Representative Whitten: "Naturally we are very much against this legislation. I don't think it is a service to the nation to bring up such controversial measures at this time. I will fight them from beginning to end."

Representative Whittington: "Lynching is fast disappearing. The states are solving the problem. Federal anti-lynch laws will both delay and hinder the complete eradication of lynching. The revival of the federal anti-poll tax issue would be most unfortunate. It would cause disunion when unity is most essential in the war effort. Suffrage is for the states. Congress has no constitutional authority to interfere or to prescribe the qualifications for voting. Both freedom and the rights of the states would thus be invaded."

JAN 23 1943

Representative Abernethy: "Anyone who would introduce measures like these is doing more to retard the progress of the war and unity of the people than any other measure that could be introduced. Evidently some of the promoters seem to be members of the Democratic party who don't appreciate the fact that southern Democrats hold the party together and saved it from complete collapse a few years ago. Instead of being rewarded for saving it, they're casting stones upon our heads—which they will long regret."

Representative Winstead: "I can't understand why anyone would bring up such questions at this time. This is no time, regardless, for meddling into our rights and privileges."

JAN 23 1943

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

Memorial To Congress To Enact Anti-Poll Tax Bill Introduced By Representative Henry D. Winslow

JAN 16 1943

Repr. Henry D. Winslow of Cambridge has filed with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, a bill memorializing Congress and the President of the United States to pass and to sign a bill outlawing the Anti-Poll Tax provisions that now exist in several of the southern states. Rep. Winslow is Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Law, the committee before whom this resolve will probably be heard. During his last term on Beacon Hill he secured the passage of a similar resolve on the floor of the House. The bill introduced by Rep. Winslow reads as follows:

JAN 16 1943

WHEREAS, many colored people are fighting in the United States army to protect and preserve the principles of Democracy for which the United Nations stand; therefore be it

JAN 16 1943

RESOLVED, That the General Court of Massachusetts hereby memorializes Seventy-eighth Congress of the United States to enact, and the President of the United States to sign, the so called Anti-Poll Tax Bill to the end that millions of citizens of the United States residing in several of our southern states shall have restored to them their democratic right to vote; and be it further

JAN 16 1943

RESOLVED, That copies of these Resolutions be sent forthwith by the Secretary of the Commonwealth to the President of the United States, to the presiding officer of each branch of Congress and to the members thereof from this Commonwealth.

First Day Of New Congress Brings Six Anti-Poll Tax Bills

BY FILIBUSTER?

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The introduction of six anti-poll tax bills in the House of Representatives in its first four legislative days indicate strong support in the new Congress for early action to outlaw the poll tax.

The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax which led the right to abolish the poll tax in the last Congress, has announced its support of H.R. 987, introduced by Joseph Clark Baldwin, (R.), N. Y., and promises to conduct a vigorous campaign to secure early passage of the bill.

In addition to H. R. 987, other bills to abolish the tax have been introduced by Warren G. Magnuson, (D.) Wash.; George H. Bender, (R.) Ohio; Vito Marcantonio, Ind., N. Y.; Stephen A. Day, (R.), and Joseph Gavagan, (D.), N. Y.

Mr. Baldwin has introduced a discharge petition to bring his bill on the floor of the House. It is expected that the 218 signatures of Congressmen required to bring the legislation up for a vote will be obtained early in the first session.

KILLED BY FILIBUSTER

National attention was focused on the poll tax disfranchisement of 10 million citizens by the filibuster which prevented the passage of the bill in the last Congress.

A national conference to launch a vigorous and successful campaign to abolish the poll tax in this session of Congress will be held March 9 in Washington, D. C., the National Committee announced this week.

Leaders of national organizations of labor, church, Negro, men and women of civic groups will be invited to send representatives.

It is also expected that key regional people will attend to work out specific plans for carrying on the fight state by state and district by district.

The AFL and CIO at recent legislative conferences pledged renewed support behind the fight to abolish the poll tax.

Pledges of support of early passage of anti-poll tax legislation have been made by church and fraternal groups throughout the country, the committee stated.

JAN 23 1943

resentatives by a vote of 252 to 84.

JAN 23 1943

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Anti-Poll Tax Bill Hits Snag

JAN

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—(AP)—A proposal of Representative Marcantonio, America Labor, New York, to exert pressure by publicity for passage of his antipoll tax bill hit a snag today in the form of an obscure house rule.

Marcantonio's measure, which would outlaw the poll taxes required by some southern states as a voting qualification, was sent to the Judiciary Committee, on which Marcantonio was denied a seat and which has shown no inclination to act.

The aggressive sponsor had announced he would circulate a "discharge petition" to bring the bill to the floor for a vote over the committee's head and would make public daily the names of his colleagues who signed it and those who refused to sign.

JAN 25 1943

But it developed that a rule provides that names on a discharge petition may not be made public until at least 218 have signed.

Only through discharge procedure, Marcantonio conceded, could his bill be brought before the house. A discharge petition may be circulated 30 legislative days after a committee fails to act. Proponents used this procedure last year to get a poll tax bill through the house, only to have it filibustered to death in the senate.

House passage of a poll tax repealer early this session, its backers figured, would prevent another senate filibuster on the theory that senators could not talk continuously for a year and a half.

"The rule preventing disclosure of the signers before the 218 names are obtained," Marcantonio commented, "might slow up the repeal drive but it certainly won't stop it. There still will be plenty of pressure from back home, and those of us who are interested in the legislation will have to work harder her

JAN 25 1943

Marcantonio said the discharge petition would be circulated as soon as the 30 days for Judiciary Committee action have elapsed, about the middle of February.

Senator Pepper, Florida, sponsor of an anti-poll tax bill last session, has not indicated whether he plans to introduce one again in his chamber. Senator Hill, Democrat, Alabama, the majority whip, predicted that any move to revive the issue would be defeated.

ttsburgh Courier
ttsburgh, PA.

Group Gets Clergy Support In 1943

JAN 9 - 1943

Federated Organizations Join In National Movement to Abolish South's Vicious Poll Tax Law

JAN 9 - 1943

BROOKLYN, N.Y., Jan. 7—Negro and white people's organizations and the trade unions of this city are adding their strength to the national movement to abolish the poll tax during the 78th Congress.

Twenty-five outstanding clergymen of the borough have been sponsors of the Brooklyn and Long Island League to Abolish the Poll Tax. The League maintains offices at 50 Court street. The League was organized December 2, 1942, at the Holy Trinity Baptist church here, where a mass rally of 1,000 people, under the chairmanship of the Rev. Thomas S. Harten, cheered its formation.

State Senator Louis B. Heller and Assemblyman Robert J. Crews informed the League's secretary, Bert J. Coffey, of their intention to introduce resolutions early in the session of the State Legislature memorializing the House of Representatives to pass HR 7, a bill to abolish the poll tax in federal elections. Because Councilman John T. Sharkey, Democratic leader, is a sponsor of the anti-poll tax movement in Brooklyn, it is believed that the City Council will also get behind the fight to end the poll tax.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

REP. ROBISON TO INTRODUCE NEW MEASURE

Plan Big N.Y. Conference To Push Campaign For Legislation

WASHINGTON — Liberal forces this week were girding for a new battle to force passage of anti-poll tax legislation at the next session of congress.

JAN 2 1943

Representative Robinson (R. Ky.) indicated this week that he may introduce a bill for this purpose in the 78th Congress.

"Quite a number of groups and individuals have urged me to introduce such a bill," he said.

And in New York City a committee is being sent up at a meeting to be held at the Abyssinian church on January 9 for the purpose of continuing the poll-tax fight. This committee is to include virtually every civil, labor, social, youth, fraternal, church and educational organization in the city's Clayton Powell, Jr., and Dr. Tobias Channing, co-chairmen of the People's committee, are calling the meeting.

JAN 2 1943

To Include Primaries

Robinson said that if his bill is introduced that it will have the same objectives as those of the Geyer and Pepper bills which were introduced in the last session of Congress. There will be one difference, however, the new bill will be drawn to include primaries.

"In recent years the supreme court has reversed itself and taken the position that primaries are actually elections. And this seems appropriate, for in some sections the primary is the end and the general election means nothing," Robinson stated.

During the fight in the last session of Congress, Robinson was Republican floor manager in favor of the bill. He argued at that time that payment of a tax in a federal election is not a legitimate qualification for voting.

With the anti-poll tax groups organizing for the coming session of Congress, they realize that it will be a bitter fight. During the 77th Congress, the battle over this issue raged for days and reactionaries finally defeated the measure in the Senate when a southern filibuster could not be stopped by the adoption of a cloture resolution.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Six Bills Introduced In House

JAN 2 2 1943

Committee to Support Measure Of Rep. Baldwin

WASHINGTON.—The introduction of 6 anti-poll tax bills in the House of Representatives in its four legislative days, indicates strong support in the new Congress for early action to outlaw the poll tax.

JAN 22 1943

The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, which led the fight to abolish the poll tax in the last Congress, announced its support of H.R. 987, introduced by Joseph Clark Baldwin (R.N.Y.) and will conduct a vigorous campaign to secure early passage of the bill.

Mr. Balwin will introduce a discharge petition to bring his bill on the floor of the House. It is expected that the 218 signatures of congressmen required to bring the legislation up for a vote will be obtained early in the first session.

National attention was focused on the poll tax disfranchisement of 10 million citizens by the filibuster which prevented the passage of the bill in the final days of the last Congress after it had been passed by the House of Representatives by a vote of 252 to 84.

"The early passage of the poll tax bill by the new Congress," said a spokesman for the commitee, "will bring to 10 million American citizens that democracy for which we are fighting abroad. Its passage will be a significant victory for national unity, for it wil give 10 million disfranchised Americans a stake in the war.

JAN 2 2 1943

"The poll tax bill is one of the most important war measures now before the Congress. The A.F. of L. and CIO at reecnt legislative conferences recognizing that the poll taxers are the spearhead of reaction in attacking the gains made by labor, have pledged renewed support behind the fight to abolish the poll tax. Pledges of support for early passage of anti-poll tax legislation have been received from church, Negro, women and fraternal groups throughout the country.

JAN 2 2 1943

Clanton, Ala., Banner
January 7, 1943

NEW YORKER DRAFTS NEW POLL TAX BILL

In the face of warnings by Southern Democrats that the action might turn the slim Democratic majority in the House into a minority, Representative Marcantonio (AL), New York, announced Monday "a plan to pass the anti-poll tax bill in 1943."

He has drafted for immediate introduction when Congress convenes Wednesday a bill that would outlaw the poll tax, levied in some Southern states, as a prerequisite of voting for Federal officials. A similar measure was passed by the House last session after a bitter fight but was killed in the Senate by a filibuster such as has blocked anti-lynching legislation in past years.

Marcantonio said he could thwart a Senate filibuster this year by obtaining House action on the bill early in the session. He announced he would file a discharge petition in February to force the bill to the floor from committee and said there was no doubt the necessary 218 signatures would be obtained.

"Every week," he promised, "the people of the country will be informed which congressmen have signed the discharge petition and which have not. I am sure the people will see to it, under these circumstances, that the necessary 218 signatures are obtained in short order."

Predicting House passage by June, Marcantonio commented that "a year and a half will be a long time for poll-tax senators to carry on a filibuster."

Attack on Poll Tax Revives in Senate

P.M. Daily, New York, N.Y.

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—The fight to abolish the poll tax as a qualification for voting probably will be revived in the Sen-

JAN 22 1943

Backing Pepper in the anti-poll tax drive an active part in the drive last year, is expected to remain clear of the new campaign.

Leaders of the campaign have been told that renewing the issue at this time might disturb national unity, but they have taken

Sen. Claude Pepper (D., Fla.) is expected to introduce a bill to outlaw the poll tax in Federal elections, similar to the bill which was defeated in the last session.

President Roosevelt

JAN 22 1943

who did not take

52e-1943

Poll Tax

Anti-Poll Tax—

Rep. Joseph A. Gavagan of New York.

The bill was supported by the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, the N.A.A.C.P. and ther organizations.

The Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax says that passage of the bill in the house "reflects the will of the American people to end the undemocratic poll tax system. The coalition sponsors are to be praised for the successful prosecution of their campaign in the house.

Must Fight Filibuster

"The bill now goes to the senate judiciary committee. We urge the utmost pressure be brought on the committee for an immediate favorable report on the bill to the floor of the senate."

Prompt action by the senate committee, the Abolish the Poll Tax group continues, will make a filibuster for a whole year and a half more difficult. When the bill is reported out of committee near the end of the session, southern senators carry on a filibuster until congress closes but with a year and a half to go, it is likely the filibuster could be broken.

A dramatic outburst from a sailor in the gallery during the anti-poll tax debate was indicative of the way men in the armed forces feel about the legislation.

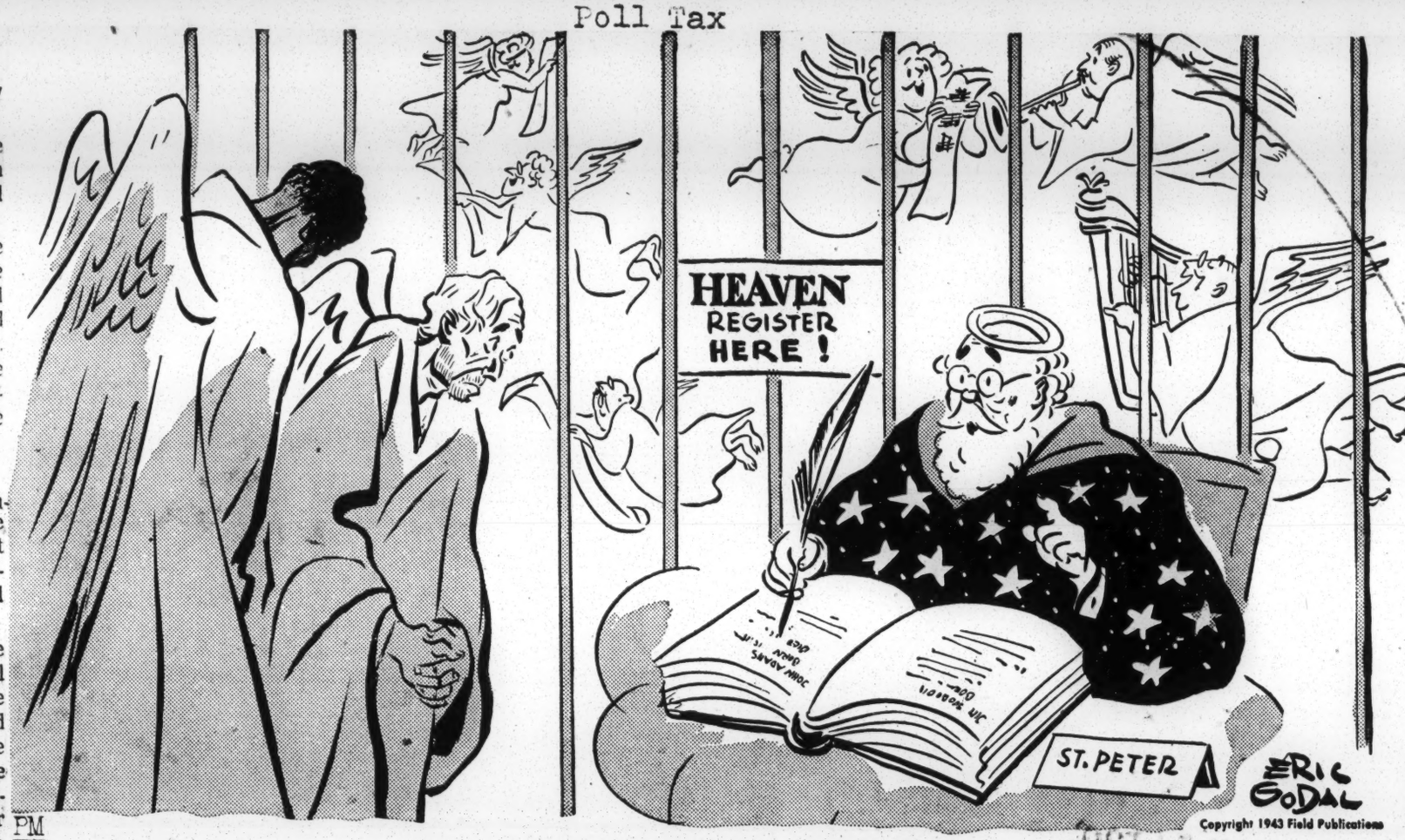
Speaks His Mind

Just as Rep. Whittington of Mississippi rose to oppose the bill, the sailor shouted from the gallery: "You don't have to pay to fight why should you have to pay to vote?"

The sailor was identified as Evan Owen Jones Jr. of Los Angeles, a second class naval signalman. He has been in the navy two years and fought in the battle of Singapore.

Police took Jones out of the house chamber to the capitol police room. There the youth said he came to Washington on a 48-hour leave "to see what makes this country click."

"I am disgusted," he added. "Those people in there (the house chamber) are fighting the Civil war all over again. They should spend their time fighting this war." The sailor was released and permitted to return to his ship.



PM
New York, N. Y.

OPINION

Democracy Is No Joke

The Man Bilbo must have quite a sense of humor.

Last Winter, while he was getting ready to talk and clown the anti-poll-tax bill to death in the Senate, he said:

"I have gone over my material very thoroughly and I find that I cannot possibly cover the subject, in all its ramifications, in less than 30 days. I am in perfect physical condition. I just have had a most thorough examination by my physician. It took him 10 days. He told me, after it was all over, that I had absolutely no defects, except one—my mind. I told him I didn't need my mind very much in the Senate so that was all right."

I guess he was kidding about his mind, but I suspect he was deadly in earnest when he said:

"No you don't have to pay a poll tax here!"

"I have always been a friend of the *nigra*. That's why I've been urging legislation to resettle the *nigras* in Africa. That's the only solution to this problem. Every intelligent student knows when you have two races living side by side you'll have a mongrel race. If you don't know that fact of history you don't know anything about race relations."

Curious irony that this champion of white supremacy seeks to keep in effect an elective system that bars from the polls six white voters for every four Negroes debarred.

And now this same man Bilbo, with his Hitlerite race theories and his perverted logic, threatens to filibuster again, giving our enemies new ammunition, when the bill to outlaw the poll tax is brought onto the floor of the Senate once more.

Not only is the tax itself, as imposed in eight Southern states, a denial of democratic rights; the means used to block its repeal have been a travesty on democratic processes.

Just a year ago irresponsible Senators were able to thwart action by absenting themselves from the Senate Chambers and hiding out. Then in November, for 10 days, a wilful, and often stupid or malicious, minority deliberately tossed away priceless days of a nation at war, filibustering.

Now we are in danger of seeing the whole shameful business happen all over again—unless the Senate Judiciary Committee reports the bill out promptly and without amendment, unless enough Senators are lined up in advance to assure cloture when the debate starts, unless those same Senators follow the lead of the House in voting decisively for passage of the bill. Delay is the poll taxers' weapon.

As for the merits of the bill itself, any sincere citizen who has given the matter thought, must find them obvious. To all but legalistic, or designing and devious minds, some things are simple.

One of the simple things is that if a man who seldom gets his hands on cash must pay the equivalent of two or three days' pay to put a cross after the name of the man he wants to represent him, he is not enjoying the rights and privileges of democracy, unrestricted. If he has to let somebody else pay it for him, he is in danger of bartering democracy's most valued heritage.

One more simple fact is that the states themselves have shown that the tax is not fiscally important to them, except as a weapon against the poor, because they make no attempt to collect it.

No, there is little new for us to say about the poll tax itself. We have often branded it a mockery of the things this Nation professes to believe in. But as victory on the foreign front becomes daily more certain, this battle on the home front becomes daily more vital.

If we continue to deny suffrage to millions. I think the answer to this question depends on whether you and I, the citizens, live up to the United States or whether we betray her. I think the poll tax betrays her . . .

"The result of a poll tax is to keep the poor from voting, or to keep the Negroes from voting, or both. If you keep the poor from voting, you make a joke of our Jefferson. If you keep the Negroes from voting, you make a joke of Lincoln.

"If you do both these things at the

Herbert Agar, editor of the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, answered that question in his testimony before a Senate subcommittee in March of last year:

"The important question in the world today, for the human race, is whether our drain that has taken so many free na-

same time, you make a joke of the American idea.

"This is the worst time in history to make a joke of the American idea. We have nothing left but the American idea—we who believe in the human race and in the respect for a man's neighbor which makes it possible for a man to respect himself."

The American idea, democracy a joke? Admit that to the fellows we ask to wallow in mire and blood and get blown to bits for it? The antics of Bilbo and some of his fellow poll-taxers in the Senate last Winter made a joke of it for a little while, all right—an ugly and costly joke. How it must have tickled Hitler and Tojo.

If we let them do it again, if we permit them to dawdle and frolic through another 10 days, and in the end kill the anti-poll-tax bill, may our empty smiles freeze upon our faces and our laughter stick in our throats.—KENNETH STEWART

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Tell It To Old Grandma

Please try to confine your letters to 300 words.

POLL TAX AS A TEST CASE

Editor The Advertiser:

Your editorial this morning on "The Poll Tax Test" was good and true in content but what you didn't say speaks volumes.

Abolition of the poll tax will not bring in the Utopia but it will remove certain obstacles to the development of democracy. The issue is embarrassing because "out-siders" are interested in the democracy of eight Southern States like we are in democracy in India. Wouldn't it be wonderful if some "insider" would be intellectually honest and Christian enough to face the facts as they are and urge that we do something about it. Florida and Louisiana have eliminated the poll tax and Tennessee has tried.

Standards and qualifications are needed for voters and the payment of a certain amount of money does not make a good citizen. Under the present system little else is required. Hundreds of thousands in Alabama would be added to the white electorate if the bill were repealed. In Louisiana after the repeal the total number of registered voters increased 44.5 per cent. The number of women voters increased 77 per cent. In Florida the gubernatorial primary showed an increase of 91 per cent over the preceding four years.

Very few middle-age couples in Alabama, even though good, honest and loyal citizens, are going to pay $72 for the privilege of voting simply because they failed at the age of 21 to register and pay $1.50 each. Thus today poverty has helped to disfranchise six million whites and four million Negroes in the eight Southern States.

The problem is not only economic but racial. The revenue for the schools could be easily raised. If it were not for the race question few objections would be raised to the abolition of this tax. Are we afraid to let the Negro vote? Are we afraid of democracy? They are the products of a democratic system. Democracy may rise or fall with them. The failure of the working of democracy in the South is known and magnified throughout the minority countries of the world.

In the City of Montgomery there are less than 200 Negro voters even though they represent 45 per cent of our population. The Negro children represent 72 per cent of all the school enrollment outside the city in Montgomery County but less than twenty Negro citizens can vote in the county. This is not the government of the people nor by the people. There is an explanation. The Negro knows he is not welcomed at the polls.

Last year one of the leading business men in Montgomery and I were requested to "sign" for a Negro to vote. Not because he couldn't sign his name but because of his color. He is a graduate of Tuskegee, has his Masters degree and has almost completed his work for a Ph.D. at the University of Chicago. He is a minister in our city, director of the USO for Negroes, former teacher at State Teachers' College, but all this did not "qualify" him to vote. After he was reluctantly registered by the board of registration the chairman said to us, "I'll approve him but don't ever bring this class person here again." In spite of insulting remarks the Negro didn't open his mouth and later said, "I'm sorry I caused you embarrassment."

It would be good for democracy and for our souls for some one who was born and reared in the South to take the lead in removing this stigma on our political system. Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina, Bishop Paul B. Kern, and William Allen White are among those willing to lead. Mr. Editor, we feel it would be a fine contribution if Grandma would lead out in the Cradle of the Confederacy until the faith we preach and the ideals for which we fight have become a reality.

Yes, the poll tax question is a test. It is a test of our liberality; a test of our willingness to enter the world revolution progressively; a test to the fairness of our treatment of the poor of the South; a test of our belief in the rights of an individual regardless of color; a test of our willingness to apply the freedom at home; and a test of our sincerity in the application of democracy.

D. C. WHITSETT,
Minister, St. Mark's Methodist Church.

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

Too Long Suffering

ON MONDAY the Senate Judiciary Committee will open hearings on the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill. It is well known that the poll taxers on the committee will seriously strive to get further delay piled up on the intolerable stalling which has already taken place. They are doing this under the ridiculous contention that there should be a long discussion on the "constitutionality" of the measure.

Democratic groups throughout the nation have been too long-suffering on this continued attempt to rob the Southern millions of their rights. It was on May 26 that this bill passed the House of Representatives by the landslide vote of 265 to 110. That vote represented the will of the American people. And yet, exactly five months will have passed since that event when the Senate Judiciary hearings open.

This stalling has gone on long enough. In the 77th Congress, which preceded the present sessions, the anti-poll tax bill passed the House as it has done this time. But it was smothered in the Senate by filibustering tactics. That is what the poll taxers and their anti-democratic allies hope will be accomplished this time.

Every patriotic American will have to make it his or her business to see that such a tragic event does not occur. They will have to put a stop to this conspiracy. And the labor movement in particular is charged with the duty to arouse all the people to insist upon quick consideration and action in the Senate.

Think of the boy from the South battling the Nazi foe this morning in hand-to-hand fighting. Is it not America's solemn duty to him and his buddies, both Negro and white, to make sure that democracy shall be gained for them and their families while they fight the master enemy of democracy?

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Fair Enough

By Westbrook Pegler

I don't want to accuse anyone of hypocrisy today, being in one of my patient, generous moods, but as to those friends and neighbors over on the left who decry the poll tax in those few states which still have the poll tax and oppose the piecework system and would deny the boss the right to fire a man for cause, the least that I will settle for is inconsistency.



All unions use the poll tax and defend it with the very arguments that are offered in its favor by those who would preserve it in the poll tax states of the Southern tier. They don't call it a poll tax but it comes to the same thing because the member who doesn't pay his dues and assessments is not allowed to vote. Even worse than that, he is not allowed to work. The intent of that ostracism is to starve not only the man himself but his wife and children, as well, which is a much more cruel penalty for the mere nonpayment of some money than denial of the ballot in the public elections. In the poll tax states, the delinquent is still permitted to earn his living. He doesn't have to go under cover, change his name or work at odd jobs in the dark of the moon to get by.

* * *

Another, and much worse, little foible of some unions is the Class-B, or robot, or subhuman membership. Class-B people are usually the unskilled auxiliaries of skilled-trade unions whose full members want these extra dues and this additional picket-line power to serve their ends, but are careful to provide that the lower classes can't seize control through the ballot. No state has anything like a Class-B citizenship but in those unions which I refer to a Class-B member may have only one five-hundredth or one-thousandth of a vote, which is really no vote at all. His political inferiority is based on his inferiority in skill, which may not be actual inferiority at all but arbitrary classification. But imagine, if you can, the uproar that would be raised by our friends and neighbors on the left if anyone of prominence were to propose that a pick-and-shovel man should have only a fraction of a vote in the public elections while a banker should have a whole vote. That would be pretty bad, but still a pick-and-shovel man would have a free opportunity to advance through the grades to some occupation of rating based on skill which would eventually entitle him to a full vote. The Class-B union member, however, is permanently inferior. The A-class closes its rolls for varying periods, rigs the examinations so that aspirants are bound to flunk or, in some cases, picks relatives of its members for the vacancies.

* * *

I suppose few of us realize that unions, themselves, frequently use the piecework system, but they do. Piecework is where you get a small retainer or salary and a certain bonus per unit of production, and that was exactly the system that the CIO used in its great man-hunts when captives were being driven into the union pounds by the thousand. The organizers got so much per head. That was one reason why they were ready to beat people's brains out with clubs and fire irons in the riots. You give a couple of poor stiffs a working over and scare 2000 others into the union hall to join up and you are doing all right for yourself.

They fire at will, too. In one case, down South, a CIO union canned an organizer who called a strike by a fake vote, after the strike was lost, and because it was lost. The employer and the workers took an awful lacing through weeks of idleness and nonproduction, but that was just their hard luck.

There are a lot of things about unions that most people don't know.

PM
New York, N. Y

SEP 17 1943

Report on Bill to Be Asked in Senate Monday

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—Chairman Frederick Van Nuys (D., Ind.), said today his Senate Judiciary Committee, which has delayed action on the anti-poll tax bill since it was passed by the House in the Spring, was ready to consider the measure.

Van Nuys said he would ask the subcommittee in charge of the measure for a report at the full Committee meeting Monday. But Chairman Ernest W. McFarland (D., Ariz.), of the subcommittee said it had not yet acted on the bill and had no plans for a meeting prior to Monday.

Members of the subcommittee voted 3-2 last year in favor of the bill, but so far have not had a meeting this year. McFarland said it probably would not meet until after the Senate had disposed of the pending controversy over the drafting of fathers.

Anti-Poll Tax Conference Presses Fight; Congressmen Back Passage

By Eva Lapin
(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8—Rep. Vito Marcantonio struck the keynote of the emergency conference of 160 delegates called by the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax today when he said:

"The fight for the soldiers vote is a fight for the abolition of the poll tax; and, the struggle for the immediate enactment of H.R. 7 is a struggle for the soldiers right to vote."

Immediately upon adjournment of the conference, the entire group of delegates rushed up to Capitol Hill to persuade Congressman and Senators to work for passage of the soldiers' vote bill in the House and passage of the anti-poll tax bill in the Senate.

A highly enthusiastic conference which recognized clearly the enemies of the anti-poll tax bill marshaled new forces in the campaign against the disenfranchisement of 10 million Southerners.

More than 16 million people were represented at the conference, including 11 million trade unionists, four million organized Negroes, and vast numbers of church and fraternal organization members.

MEAD URGES PASSAGE

Senator James Mead, New York Democrat, told the delegates that there is "no more appropriate time than now when we are fighting for democratic rights and when democracy is pitted against its enemy, fascism," for passage of a measure which will extend democracy to the South.

Republican George Bender of Ohio, one of the leaders in the successful House fight to pass H.R. 7 last Spring, pointed to the great importance of giving our soldiers and sailors the right to vote and made plain his intention of battling the coalition of tory poll-taxers and Republicans which defeated the Lucas-Green bill in the Senate.

A resolution adopted by the delegates hailed "the historic Cairo and Tehran meetings" and pledged full "support to the decisions made for offensive warfare against the Axis.

This afternoon a delegation met with Vice-President Henry A. Wallace and presented to him petitions bearing the signatures of 100,000 persons in favor of H.R. 7. The Vice-President posed for pictures with the delegation.

In her report to the conference which stressed the coming 1944 elections, Mrs. Katherine Shriver declared:

"The American people will not let Congress play politics over our heads in the foxholes. We call upon the families of these men to defend their citizenship. The American people will not permit the permanent politicians from eight poll tax states to shape the destiny of this nation. The American people are determined to restore democratic, free government in the eight poll tax states."

Acting as chairman of the meeting was Rev. Richard Morford, of New York. Among those who brought greetings and spoke briefly were Mrs. Virginia Durr, executive director of the National Committee, Walter White of the NAACP, and Nathan Cowan in behalf of CIO President Philip Murray.

Rep. Vito Marcantonio, in a speech which excited the admiration of the delegates, pointed out that the conspiracy which defeated the soldiers' vote bill "must be defeated with the same unity, firmness and will that has been expressed by four great world leaders at their conferece in Cairo and Tehran: Chiang Kai-shek, Stalin, Churchill, and our Franklin Delano Roosevelt."

Courier
Pittsburgh. Pa

ANTI-POLL TAX BILL READY FOR SENATE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23—The Senate Judiciary committee is ready to consider the anti-poll tax bill, it was revealed here this week by Chairman Frederick Van Nuys (D., Ind.). The bill has awaited action since it was passed by the House in the spring.

Van Nuys said he would ask the sub-committee in charge of the measure to report at the full committee meeting Monday, but Chairman Ernest W. McFarland (D., Ariz.) of the sub-committee said it had not yet acted on the bill and had no plans for a meeting prior to Monday.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

DEFERS POLL TAX ACTION

Senate Committee Sets Hearing for Oct. 25

WASHIN[illegible], Sept. 27 (AP)—The Senate Judiciary committee today sidetracked for thirty days a decision on whether to recommend favorable action on a House-approved bill to outlaw collections of the poll tax as a requirement for voting for Federal officials.

On motion of Senator Hatch the committee set Oct. 25 for a public hearing on the constitutionality of the legislation. Senator Hatch was instructed to invite Attorney General Biddle to present his own opinion as to the constitutionality of the proposal.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

QUIRK ON POLL TAX

Topping the list of bills enacted into law by the recent session of the Legislature was House Bill No. 1, by Mr. Gwin, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama to exempt persons from payment of poll tax who served in the military service of the United States during the World War and the present war.

The amendment encountered no opposition and will be voted on at the next general election. It is almost certain of approval, for exemption from poll tax payment was granted to veterans of World War I, and the voters could do no less in extending the same privilege to those who serve in this war.

But this raises a question. Just who will there be to pay a poll tax, after this war is over?

After hostilities cease, hundreds of thousands of boys and men, between 18 and 38 and up to 45 or older, will have been in service and therefore eligible for poll tax exemption.

Add these to the number freed of this suffrage requirement by the last war, plus those over 45 who automatically are not required to pay the tax, and who will continue its payment?

There will be a good many women, of course, and those men or boys rejected for military service.

The number of these two groups, however, will be far less than those who will not be required to pay the fee for voting.

Exemptions will apply to white and Negro veterans alike. There will be no legal bar to the Negro voting. Only [illegible] will prevent his exercising the right of suffrage.

The same will apply to the poorer whites, many of whom did not have the money for poll tax payment or did not think it worth the price to vote.

At any rate, after this war there is likely to be a considerable shift in Alabama's voting strength.

Without legal repeal of the poll tax requirement, the law is going to be nullified in large part by exemptions of war veterans, both white and black. The letter may remain, but in actual fact the substance will be gone.—Huntsville Times.

The anti-poll tax bill, passed by the House last spring, would abolish payment of a poll tax as a prerequisite to voting [illegible] president and members of Congress. It would nullify these levies in eight southern states.

Committee Chairman Frederick Van Nuys, Democrat of Indiana reported the roll call vote showed:

For: Pat McCarran (Democrat, Nevada); A. B. Chandler (Democrat, Kentucky); Harley M. Kilgore (Democrat, West Virginia); Abe Murdock (Democrat Utah); Ernest McFarland (Democrat, Arizona); Burton K. Wheeler (Democrat, Montana; John A Danaher (Republican, Connecticut); Alexander Wiley (Republican, Wisconsin); William Langer (Republican, North Dakota); Homer Ferguson (Republican, Michigan); Kenneth Wherry (Republican, Nebraska), and Van Nuys

Against: Carl A. Hatch (Democrat (New Mexico); Tom Connally (Democrat, Texas); Charles O. Andrews (Democrat, Florida); Warren Austin (Republican, Vermont; Chapman Revercomb (Republican, West Virginia and Joseph C. O'Mahoney (Democrat, Wyoming.)

Favorable Report On Poll Tax Bill Hailed By Group

WASHINGTON—A favorable report to the Senate Judiciary Committee by the McFarland subcommittee considering HR 7, the bill to abolish the poll tax, was hailed as a major victory last week by the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax.

"Senator McFarland is to be congratulated," said Mrs. Katherine Shryver, executive secretary of the committee, "on the most eminent tal- will secure the most ent in the country to demonstrate this step" in giving the vote back the constitutionality of HR 7." to 10,000,000 American citizens now deprived of the franchise by the

WRITE SENATORS

The National Committee urges poll tax in Southern States. This all supporters of the bill to write is the first step in final Senate to their senators protesting against approval of the bill which was any further delay in reporting the passed by the House of Representa- bill from the judiciary committee. tives by a vote of 265 to 110 on "This is a war measure," Mrs. Shry- May 25."

LAST DITCH ATTEMPT

A decision of the full judiciary committee, however, to delay action until constitutionality arguments could be heard on October 25, was viewed by Mrs. Shryver as a last ditch attempt on the part of the opposition to stall action on the bill. "Hearings were held for over 18 months in the last Congress and ample evidence of the constitutionality of the bill is, and has been, available to the Senate judiciary committee for a long time.

There is no valid need for further hearings on the bill. Since the Senate judiciary committee has so decided, however, the National committee to Abolish the Poll Tax will ver emphasized. "When success for our boys in battle in the suburbs of Naples and the wilds of New Guinea is a matter of minutes and hours, it is particularly unfortunate to have Congress delay for a whole month in taking up a bill that will give ten million Americans the right to vote, the right to a full democracy for which our soldiers are fighting and dying."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Filibuster Is Again Threat Of Southerners

Nov. 3 1943

Amended Constitution Plan Listed as "Out"

WASHINGTON— (FNS) — The Senate Judiciary Committee Friday approved the anti-poll tax bill by Connally is the only member of the committee who represents a poll tax state. Besides Texas oth a vote of 12 to 6. Meanwhile, southern senators Senator Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi, announced are Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia through Senat or it would be filibustered Mississippi, South Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee. Democrat on the floor it came up for debate. when it came

Connally, displeased by t h
vote, told reporters he thought th
chairman might put a big black
wreath on the committee room
door.

Van Nuys conceded that the bill
faced an almost certain filibuster,
and he wondered out loud how
such a move would be received
by the country in the m i d s t o
war. Commenting on the s a m e
subject, Bilbo said "if the spon-
sors of this ill-advised legislation
press for action and that brings
about an impasse, then the respon-
sibility will be on them."

One possible out for the senate
may lie in a resolution by O'Ma-
honey, calling for ablition of t h e
poll tax by a constitution amend-
ment. He called for a vote on it
in t h e committee before noses
were counted on the house bill,
but lost, 11 to 7. After the house
bill was approved, O'Mahoney's
resolution came up again and met
a 9-9 deadlock.

The committee will consider it
again Monday, and the southern-
ers may decide to accept it in the
thought it eventually would fail
of ratification.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Senators Urged Not To Sabotage Repeal Measure

NOV 16 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—A second attempt to report the O'Mahoney constitutional Amend-ment, outlawing the poll tax, was frustrated when the Senate Judi-ciary Committee voted nine to eight Monday to keep it in Com-mittee.

The anti-poll tax bill passed by the House last spring, would abolish payment of a poll tax as a prerequisite to voting for Presi-dent and vice president and mem-bers of Congress. And it would nullify these levies in eight south-ern states.

At Washington Saturday, a CIO officials urged senators not to "sabotage" the antipoll tax bill by supporting a move Senator O'Ma-honey (D) Democrat of Wyoming to submit the question as a con-stitutional amendment.

Nathan Cowan, CIO legislative dircetor, charged in a statement that O'Mahoney proposal "is being as a method of knifing the poll tax repeal."

"It is exactly what the poll tax senators want, since it will confuse the issue, and distract attention from HR 7', declared Cowan.

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Senate Body Acts On Poll Tax Today

NOV 14 1943

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.—With H.R. 7, the anti-poll tax bill, finally coming up for a vote tomorrow in the Senate Judiciary Committee, the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax hit out against the intimidation by poll tax senators and called for a favorable report on the bill.

Sharply challenging the state-ments of Senator Tom Connally Texas Democrat, who called secret caucus yesterday of Southerners to plan ways and means of filibustering the bill and denounced it as "bitterly partisan" and seeking to "divide the Senate on essential legislation," the com-mittee declared:

"The bill is neither controversial nor undemocratic but on the con-trary is a vitally necessary piece of current war legislation which dur-ing the war for democracy would restore the right of franchise to ten million Americans."

The National Committee declared in its statement today that the purposes of the anti-poll tax bill were "in line with [illegible] recently-passed Connally post-war resolution and would give hope to the mil-lions of enslaved people throughout the world."

If the bill should be reported out of the Judiciary Committee, it will have passed the first hurdle. Next step will be to face a bitter fight in the Senate which has already been mapped by Connally and his poll-tax colleagues.

Decisions as to when the measure would come up on the Senate floor rests with Majority Leader Alben Barkley. Poll-tax senators are al-ready talking of a filibuster until the end of the year.

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Absentees Delay Poll Tax Debate

SEP 25 1943

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24.—Sen atorial absenteeism today accounte for another delay in action on the anti-poll tax bill.

The Senate Judiciary Committee was slated to report out H.R. 7, the anti-poll tax bill introduced by Rep Vito Marcantonio and passed the House.

But it didn't have before it a long-delayed report from the sub-committee headed by Senator Ern est McFarland, Arizona Democrat which has been handling the measure.

The reason: McFarland couldn't get a quorum of his five-man sub-committee together.

Senator Abe Murdock, Utah Democrat, and Warren Austin Vermont, Republican, were out o town. And Senator Tom Connally veteran poll tax filibusterer from Texas, wasn't going to cooperate to make a quorum with McFarland and Senator John Danaher, Con-necticut Republican.

McFarland and Danaher are definitely committed to support the bill. Murdock voted for it last year but is reported to be a bit shaky. Connally and Austin are both op-posed to the measure.

Another effort to get the sub-committee together will be made by McFarland tomorrow morning. If he succeeds, the full committee may report the bill out early next week.

After being under constant pres-ure from anti-poll tax groups, Mc-Farland is anxious to get the anti-poll tax bill out of the hands of his group and reported to the full committee.

Connally Delays Action on Poll Tax

SEP 28 1943

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Adam Lapin

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—Sen-ator Tom Connally of Texas, gen-eralissimo of the fight to prevent repeal of the anti-poll tax, put over a fast one today, when action on the anti-poll tax bill was delayed for a full month.

By a three to two vote, a Sen-ate Judiciary subcommittee reported favorably to the full committee H.R.7 the anti-poll tax bill intro-duced by Rep. Vito Marcantonio and passed by the House last May.

Voting for the bill were Senators Ernest McFarland of Arizona, John Danaher of Connecticut, and Abe Murdock of Utah. Against the bill were Senators Warren Austin of Vermont and Connally.

Connally objected strongly at the full committee meeting to reporting out the anti-poll tax bill for Sen-ate action.

MONTH POSTPONEMENT

After prolonged discussion, Sen-ator Carl Hatch of New Mexico came through with a motion which represented a substantial victory for Connally.

Hatch proposed that in one month the committee hold full-dress pub-lic hearings on the constitutionality of the bill, and this motion was adopted by a substantial majority.

Chairman Frederick Van Nuys of the Judiciary Committee said that three leading attorneys who favor the bill and three who are against it will be invited to participate in the hearings and testify on the is-sue of constitutionality.

In addition, Van Nuys said that he has asked Attorney General Francis Biddle either to appear per-sonally or to send a written state-ment on the constitutional issue.

It was learned that Biddle has already been asked twice before by Van Nuys to commit himself on this issue.

But he has so far ducked indicating where he stands.

The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax hailed action of the subcommittee in reporting out the bill as a "major victory."

But it condemned the action in holding new hearings as a "last ditch attempt to stall action" on the anti-poll tax bill. It said, however, that it would get the best legal talent for the hearings.

Rep. Vito Marcantonio, who introduced the measure, bluntly declared that the committee action is "the beginning of a filibuster."

Marcantonio said that there is "no need" for hearings in view of the fact that there were extensive hearings on constitutionality and all other aspects of the issue last year on the Pepper bill which is identical with H.R.7.

"The people should demand favorable action without hearings, without amendment and without further delay," Marcantonio said.

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Senator Mead And the Poll Tax

Jamaica, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

The next time all of us who are opposed to the anti-American poll tax to let our Congressmen know in no uncertain terms that we expect them to vote for cloture is greater than ever. If we expect the Marc-antonio bill, HR 7, to be passed, nothing must be taken for granted. Senator Mead, for instance, in re-sponse to specific requests that he vote for the bill and cloture to frustrate the filibuster certain to come, has answered his constitu-ents with a form letter telling of the probable fate of the bill in the Senate Judiciary Committee and that it is his opinion that it will reach the Senate floor but not that he pledges to vote for the bill or cloture.

BERNARD G. WINTER

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Poll Tax Vote Set For Friday

NOV 13

Senate Committee Will Report At Special Meeting

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A vote on the anti-poll tax bill was scheduled for Friday of this week at a special meet-ing of the Senate judiciary committee, according to an announcement by Senator F. D. Van Nuys, Democrat, chairman, of Indiana, who also said that a majority would be present to report the matter.

The committee heard only one witness against the constitution-ality of the bill last week, al-though Senator Tom Connolly leading the opposition in the up-per chamber, had promised three He was Charles Warren, attorney general in the Wilson adminis-tration, and writer on famous law subjects.

MAKES ADMISSIONS

Questioned by Senators John A Danaher (R) of Connecticut and Abe Murdock (D) of Utah, War-ren made two admissions which proponents of the bill hailed as contributions to their cause.

He admitted that it was within the power of Congress to outlaw the poll tax as it did in the Soldier vote of 1942. Senator Murdock held that if Congress could do away with the tax in that in-stance, it certainly had the power to abolish it with re-gard to the whole citizenry.

Asked if he thought a possible approach to the question might not be made through a reduction of the representation of the eight poll tax states, based upon the extent to which otherwise eligible persons are denied the privilege of voting, the former attorney general replied, "Un-questionably."

The eight southern states which require the poll tax for voting for federal officers are: Virginia, Florida, Mississippi, Georgia, Tennessee, Arkansas, South Caro-lina, and Alabama.

Says Everyone Should Have The Right To Vote

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Liberal Leader States Views On Let Out Sent To

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Wen-any citizen his
dell Willkie, candidate for the Re-to vote whether
publican presidential by poll tax or by
in 1944, is opposed to must be end. The anti-poll tax bill is sche-
white primaries as every duled to be called up on Jan. 15
the poll tax. In a forthright state-by Sen. Frederick Van Nuys (D) of
ment of position, Willkie wrote. "Any
himself even closer with deprives any group
forces of liberalism when he ad-set forth in
dressed his letter to Katherine Shryver, executive secretary, Nat-
"Efforts to d
to deny improperly to
his constitutional right
in our country from
the inherent rights as
in the constitution is
white primary case
the poll tax. In a forthright state-measure
ment of position, Willkie aligned
himself even closer with the
forces of liberalism when he ad-set forth in
dressed his letter to Katherine
Shryver, executive secretary, Nat-
citizens."

Anti-Poll Tax Bill Goes To Senate With Sarcastic Blow

Montgomery, Ala. advertiser

NOV 19 1943

NOV 20 1943

Filibuster On Poll Tax Bill

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—(U.P.)—The Senate judiciary committee today approved, 12-to-7, the House-adopted bill to outlaw poll taxes as a prerequisite to voting in Federal elections, but opponents in the Senate promptly announced it would be filibustered when it comes up for debate—just as it was a year ago.

Soon after the committee reported the controversial measure Senator Theodore Bilbo (D) Mississippi, served notice the opposition again would seek to talk it to death. Bilbo, who led last December's successful filibuster, represents one of the eight poll tax States. The others are Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee and Texas.

"The senators who are sponsoring this legislation know full well that it will be discussed at full length," he said, adding they must take the responsibility if debate on the issue should crack important war legislation.

"There are enough senators who believe in free and unlimited debate to prevent invocation of a cloture rule which would shut off full discussion of this matter."

Committee Chairman Frederick Van Nuys (D), Indiana took up the challenge.

"I'm ready to dispose of the bill," he said. "I hate to see a filibuster and I don't know what the people will think of a delay in these war times. But certainly every member already has his mind made up and I see no reason to put it off."

He will confer with Senate leaders, however, before moving to bring the issue to debate. It is believed the leadership will try to postpone debate until subsidy and tax legislation is disposed of.

Opponents on the committee sought to write a proposal calling for abolition of the poll tax by constitutional amendment which would require approval by two-thirds of the States. That move ended in a 9-to-9 vote and final consideration was put off until Monday.

Senator Tom Connally (D), Texas, one of six committee members voting against the anti-poll tax bill and leader of last year's filibuster, commented:

"I hope the chairman hangs crepe over the committee room door after this action today."

WASHINGTON

Hailing failure of the O'Mahoney Resolution as a major victory, supporters of the Marcantonio Bill to abolish the poll tax this week concentrated their efforts upon heading off a threatened Senate filibuster on the measure.

The O'Mahoney Resolution, calling for elimination of the poll tax evil through Constitutional amendment, was introduced in the Senate last week by Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney (D.,Wyo.), following the favorable 12-6 Judiciary Committee vote on the Marcantonio Bill on Friday.

Resolution Condemned

Acting upon the resolution, which would have sidetracked the earlier bill, the Senate Judiciary Committee on Monday voted 9 to 8 for its tabling.

Congressman George H. Bender of Ohio, chairman of the House Steering Committee, whose efforts secured House passage of the Marcantonio Bill by a vote of 265 to 110, earlier had hit the O'Mahoney Resolution as "part of the filibustering tactics of the poll tax Senators."

Said Congressman Bender:

"This determined minority knows that once the measure comes to a vote of the full Senate, its passage is assured.

"A filibuster in war time against one vital war measure and delaying Senate consideration of others becomes a tragic defeat of those democratic aspirations for which we are fighting all over the world."

A much stronger attack upon the "filibuster bloc" was made by Vito Marcantonio (A.L.P., N.Y.), who gave the threatened filibuster by sixteen poll tax Senators the following warning:

"It means that for days the business of the Senate of the United States will be halted by a minority, while that minority spews out to the world slanderous lies against the colored people, against Jews, against religious creeds.

"For days this group will be able to 'make a record' of race hate on the floor of the Senate which will each night be repeated to tens of millions of peoples of darker races in Asia, Africa and India by Axis short wave radio broadcasts.

"A filibuster is treason. A filibuster is a domestic Fascist."

Asks 16-Hour Sessions

Laying the responsibility for passage of the measure at the door of leaders of the majority and minority parties, Representative Marcantonio demanded that Majority Leader Barkley call up the bill immediately and hold the Senate in session sixteen hours a day, making the filibusterers "talk until their tongues hang dry."

"Republican Senator Charles McNary is leader of the minority party. He and a majority of his Republican colleagues have said again and again that they are on record for the passage of anti-poll tax legislation.

Public Support Urged

"He and his colleagues know that if they will join with liberal Democrats in voting for cloture the anti-poll tax bill can be passed in the Senate in three days."

Congressman Marcantonio then appealed to the voters of the nation to write to their Senators insisting that they call up the Marcantonio Bill, that they keep it on the floor until it is passed, that no deals be made with the filibusterers, and that the filibuster against the bill be killed.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Hold Up Poll Tax Bill Strategy Meeting

WASHINGTON (ANP)—A scheduled conference to plan strategy on the anti-poll tax bill, now on the Senate calendar, was postponed last Wednesday when Sen. Frederick Van Nuys (D) of Indiana found himself trying to clarify the liquor situation as chairman of a Senate sub-committee studying the matter.

There was no indication how soon the session would be held. Participating in the talks were to have been other supporters in the Senate of the House-approved bill. Later, outside support was to have been called in and informed how they best could tie in with the strategy.

Meet Set for Dec. 8

Meanwhile, the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax announced through its secretary, Catherine Shryver, that an emergency meeting of the executive conference had been called for Wednesday, Dec. 8, at which 125 supporters from various parts of the country were to attend.

The meeting was called for the purpose of mobilizing all potential aid in the states for cloture and for a final vote on the legislation.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Hold Up Poll

Tax Measure Strategy Meet

No Indication When Session Will Be Held

DEC 1 1943

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The meeting was called for the purpose of mobilizing all potential aid in the states for cloture and for a fine vote on the legislation. "We want to stop up the public angle," Mrs. Suryver stated. "We have had much work done by the organizations. We're going to roll up our sleeves in the morning, and lobby in the afternoon."

Nothing but the "maximum pressure" she said is going to get the bill passed in the senate.

Negro Congress To Push Fight On Poll Tax

New York, N.Y.

The National Negro Congress at the next meeting of its national executive board in Cleveland, September 26, will make plans to rally its entire membership to press for immediate passage of the anti-poll tax bill in the Senate.

The Congress in cooperation with other organizations supported the successful fight for passage of H. R. 7 in the House this year, and has already committed itself to continue its efforts until the poll tax is removed as a qualification for voting.

In addition to the poll tax, the open session of the national board will act upon three other vital issues confronting the Negro people today:

(1) Mobilization of the American people for coalition warfare and victory in 1943.

(2) The total abolition of discrimination in the Armed Forces of the United States as an essential for victory.

(3) Full participation of the Negro people in the 1944 elections.

Edward E. Strong, national secretary of the Congress in announcing the meeting to be held at the Cedar Avenue YMCA 7615 Cedar Avenue, Cleveland, urged full attendance of the regular members of the Board as well as of the invited guests.

Said Mr. Strong: "Every delay in opening the second front in Western Europe offers the frightful possibility of an unnecessary extension of the war with the consequent loss of lives; leads to continued destruction of the remaining Jewish people on the continent; and creates the grave danger that the American fascists may succeed in their efforts to bring about an appeasement peace with Hitler."

Mr. Strong indicated that one of the greatest barriers to the full participation of the Negro people in the war is the maintenance and growth of jim-crowism, segregation, and discrimination in the Armed Forces.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

A WASTE OF EFFORT

The Southern Conference for Human Welfare, an organization composed of colored and white New Dealers, is not a group of realists. Either that or they are too embarrassed to take the logical step in the direction of poll tax repeal. The Federal Repeal Bill is stalled on the road to passage because President Roosevelt, reportedly, has not given Senator Claud Pepper the "go signal" that would put a strong Southern legislator in the forefront of the movement to get the bill passed.

Sending petitions to Southern Senators, pleading with them to let the bill be passed, will be a wasted effort unless the "Great White Father" of the Southern Conference gives poll tax repeal his active support.

Poll Taxers Plot Fight

PM
New York, N.Y.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.—Sixteen Senators favoring the poll tax met in a secret caucus yesterday to plot their fight against the poll tax repeal which is expected to get favorable action in the Senate Judiciary Committee tomorrow.

It was reported that the bloc was called together by Sen. Tom Connally (D., Tex.) and all

Even if the bill is reported favorably to the Senate it cannot come up without Barkley's consent. Barkley's leadership was seriously jeopardized by the southerners the fight for poll tax repeal in the last session of Congress.

SAYS POLL TAX BAN IS UP TO THE STATES

NOV 3 - 1943

Warren, High Court's Historian, Is Heard by Senate Group on House Bill

NOV 3 - 1943

A MATTER OF SOVEREIGNTY

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Constitutional Authority, in Favor of Abolition, Sees No Authority in Congress

NOV 3 - 1943

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2—The authority of Congress to outlaw the poll-tax requirements of eight Southern States was disputed today by Charles Warren, historian of the United States Supreme Court and former assistant attorney general, although he said that such a tax was "unjust" and should be abolished.

The constitutional authority, writer and lecturer testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee, which is considering a House-approved bill to abolish poll taxes as a requisite for voting for candidates for Federal office.

Mr. Warren said that, constitutionally, the tax could be abolished only by each State itself, "the sovereignty that created it," and not by the National Legislature.

He explained that, under the examination, it is up to the States to fix the qualifications for voters, the only condition being that qualifications for balloting on Federal officials must be the same as for Representatives in the lower houses of the State Legislatures.

"National citizenship in itself does not confer the right to vote," he asserted. "Women were citizens prior to 1920, but they were not given the right to vote until the Constitution was amended."

Mr. Warren recalled that he worked for abolition of the Massachusetts poll tax as a young man in Boston and later served as private secretary to former Governor William E. Russell, whom he credited with effecting the repeal of the Massachusetts law.

"At that time," he said, "no one in authority intimated Congress had the authority to abolish it. We did it ourselves. We did not go to Congress."

During today's final hearing on the House bill Senator John A. Danaher, Republican, of Connecticut said he planned to propose, as an alternate to legislation to kill the poll tax laws, that representation of the eight Southern poll tax States in the House be reduced in proportion to the numbers of electors prevented from taking part in elections.

He said he would put the idea forward as a possible solution to the problem when the committee took up the bill for final consideration, probably on Monday.

Chairman Van Nuys said, however, that Mr. Danaher's idea "has no more chance than the anti-poll-tax bill itself." He predicted it would run into the same "geographical division."

Mr. Danaher argued that the Constitution authorizes a reduction of the numbers of Representatives in the House from a State in proportion to the number of the State's citizens "whose voting rights are abridged" and who thus are barred from State citizenship.

"I certainly intend to offer this for the full committee's consideration before the anti-poll tax bill is decided on finally," Mr. Danaher said.

GROUP VOTES TO DROP POLL TAX

Age-Herald

Filibuster Threatened On Senate Floor By Southerner

NOV 13 1943

Birmingham, Ala.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12—(AP)—The Senate judiciary committee endorsed the anti-poll tax bill 12 to 6 Friday in the face of open threats of a filibuster by opponents.

Any member of the Senate may move to take it up after it appears on the calendar of business Monday, but if such an effort is made, Sen. Bilbo (D., Miss.) said, the result will be "free and unlimited coinage of words." He and a group of fellow-Southerners talked a similar measure to death in the closing days of the 77th Congress.

Opponents of the bill are relying almost entirely on the Senate's tradition of unlimited debate to block the measure, with many of them admitting privately that the bill would pass if it ever came to a vote. The House approved the measure May 21 by a vote of 265 to 110.

NOV 13 1943

It would make it unlawful to require that a poll tax be paid as a prerequisite for voting at elections for presidential electors, senators or members of the House of Representatives. Eight states now have such laws — Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina, Arkansas, Virginia, Texas, Georgia and Tennessee.

Advocates of the bill declare that no citizen should be required to pay in order to vote; opponents declare the federal government has no right to invade the domain of the states and establish voting qualifications.

Voting for bill in Committee were seven Democrats—Chairman Van Nuys (Indiana), McCarran (Nevada), Chandler (Kentucky), Kilgore (West Virginia), Murdock (Utah), McFarland (Arizona), and Wheeler (Montana)—and five Republicans—Danaher (Connecticut), Wiley (Wisconsin), Langer (North Dakota), Ferguson (Michigan), and Wherry (Nebraska). Democratic Sens. Hatch (New Hampshire), Connally (Texas), O'Mahoney (Wyoming), and Andrews (Florida) lined up against the measure, along with Republicans Austin (Vermont), and Revercomb (West Virginia).

Connally, displeased by the vote, told reporters he thought the chairman ought to put a big black wreath on the committee room door.

NOV 13 1943

Van Nuys conceded that the bill faced an almost certain filibuster, and he wondered out loud how such a move would be received by the country in the midst of war. Commenting on the same subject, Bilbo said "if the sponsors of this ill-advised legislation press for action and that brings about an impasse, then the responsibility will be on them."

NOV 13 1943

One possible out for the Senate may lie in a resolution by O'Mahoney, calling for abolition of the poll tax by a constitutional amendment. He called for a vote on it in the committee before noses were counted on the House bill, but lost, 11 to 7. After the House bill was approved, O'Mahoney's resolution came up again and met a -deadlock.

The committee will consider it again Monday, and the Southerners may decide to accept it in the thought it eventually would fail of ratification.

Bill Reported, New Poll Tax Fight Begins

Post

Washington, D. C.

NOV 13 1943

The House-approved anti-poll-tax bill, perennially defeated by a Southern fillibuster yesterday was approved by a 12 to 6 vote of the Senate Judiciary Committee and immediately touched off Senate pyrotechnics.

Senator Theodore G. (The Man) Bilbo (Democrat) of Mississippi, one of 16 Senators who are pledged to kill the bill, served unvarnished notice of fillbuster.

"In the days to come it will be another case of Bryan's free and unlimited coinage of words instead of silver," Bilbo told the Senate.

"The responsibility must rest on the sponsors of the proposed legislation, because they know full well that this question will be discussed at length, without limit."

NOV 13 1943

Republicans, Democrats

Five Republicans joined with seven Democrats on the Judiciary Committee to send the buffeted measure once again to the Senate, while four Democrats and two Republicans voted "no." Gibed Senator Tom Connally of Texas, leader of the Southern Sixteen: "The committee ought to hang a crepe on the door."

Despite warnings of unlimited debate, there appeared little doubt that the legislation which last year tied the Senate in knots will again be the Senate's "unfinished business." Now that it is reported, any Senator can move to call it up. Getting it to a vote will be another matter.

NOV 13 1943

Senate Majority Leader Barkley, who last year led a futile effort to impose cloture to force a vote on the bill, declined comment on the committee's action. He said he expected Chairman Frederick Van Nuys, or a member of his committee, to call up the measure.

O'Mahoney Unsuccessful

Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney (Democrat) of Wyoming meanwhile made two unsuccessful efforts to persuade the committee to report instead his resolution ending poll taxes by constitutional amendment. His first move to substitute this for the outright repealer was defeated, 11 to 7. His next effort to report the constitutional amendment in addition to the flat repeal bill lost on a tie, 9 to 9.

Senator William Langer (Republican) of North Dakota asked reconsideration of this vote, and on Monday the committee is expected to lay O'Mahoney's resolution before the Senate. Senators who oppose the anti-poll-tax legislation on constitutional grounds may get a chance to vote on the constitutional amendment method.

Bilbo, in his Senate speech, took sharp exception to an anti-poll-tax editorial in The Post.

NOV 13 1943

Bilbo Attacks Editorial

"The passage of the bill will not qualify a single, solitary Negro in Mississippi to vote," Bilbo told the Senate. "We do not eliminate Negroes from the ballot box through the poll-tax qualification. It is done by another provision of the State constitution."

In reporting the bill, the Judiciary Committee voted as follows:

For—Van Nuys of Indiana, McCarran of Nevada, Chandler of Kentucky, Kilgore of West Virginia, Murdock of Utah, McFarland of Arizona and Wheeler of Montana, (Democrats) and Danaher of Connecticut. Wiley of Wisconsin, Langer of North Dakota, Ferguson of Michigan and Wherry of Nebraska, (Republicans).

Against—Hatch of New Mexico, Connally of Texas, O'Mahoney of Wyoming and Andrews of Florida, (Democrats), and Austin of Vermont and Revercomb of West Virginia, (Republicans).

Group Fighting Poll Tax Wins Another Round

NOV 5 1943

The Courier-Journal Washington Bureau

Louisville, Ky.

Washington, Nov. 15.—The forces seeking repeal of poll tax requirements for voters in eight Southern states won another skirmish today when the Senate Judiciary Committee refused, by a vote of 9 to 8, to recommend adoption of a constitutional amendment which would forbid states to apply the poll tax in federal elections.

The anti-poll taxers opposed the constitutional amendment proposal because they are supporting a House-approved measure which would forbid by statute the use of poll tax requirements in the election of President, Representatives and Senators. The House bill was approved by the Judiciary Committee Friday, 12 to 6.

NOV 16 1943

Senator A. B. Chandler, who is in Kentucky, voted by proxy in favor of the constitutional amendment, which was put forward by Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney, Wyoming Democrat. O'Mahoney told reporters that some Senators who voted against his constitutional amendment doubt that the House bill is constitutional and that he hopes to get enough votes later to bring it out of committee with a favorable report.

Failing that, O'Mahoney plans to offer it on the floor of the Senate.

"The remedy for [illegible] which is offered by statutory approach," Chandler said, "can result only in a Senate filibuster and if it is passed, because of some advocates of the bill acknowledge there is [illegible] constitutional.

NOV 16 1943

Chandler votes "Yes."

"The amendment proposed on the other hand, offers a sure and certain way to gain the reform which is very much needed. There can be no doubt that the amendment procedure is constitutional; there can be no doubt that if the amendment is adopted by Congress and ratified by three-fourths of the states, there can be no further dispute.

"In other words, the amendment offers an end to the dispute; the [illegible] approach of

Poll Tax Bill Still Slumbers in Senate

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md
DEC 4 - 1943

Perry Howard Tells How County Registrars Keep Southern Citizens from Exercising Voting Rights

WASHINGTON — The question of Federal regulation of the entire voting process where Federal offices are at stake was interjected last Friday into the discussion of pending legislation for the abolition of the poll tax as a prerequisite to voting.

Perry W. Howard, Republican national committeeman for Mississippi, raised the question in a letter written to Senator William Langer, Republican, of North Dakota.

The Howard letter, however, was read on the floor of the Senate by Senator Theodore G. (The Man) Bilbo, Democrat, of Mississippi, who used it as an argument against passage of the Marcantonio bill.

The Marcantonio bill slept peaceably last week without any resented at the registration of voters. To buttress his request he referred to the arbitrary action of registration officials in Southern States, who adopt various pretexts for refusing to register colored persons who are qualified otherwise to vote.

Howard attacked the Marcantonio bill in its present form as "not worth the paper it is written on so far as it guarantees the colored [illegible] vote in the South."

To support this contention he said:

"1. If one has paid his poll tax for forty years on time without breaking the continuity, he must register before he can vote.

No Appeal from Clerk

"2. The matter of registration is in the hands of the circuit court clerk and there is no appeal from his decision to the courts when he denies one the right to register.

"3. Under the understanding clause (the ability to interpret the provisions of the Constitution — State or Federal) or educational clause, this clerk can arbitrarily use any subterfuge to prevent one from registering, even though he is a graduate of a leading university of the land, a large taxpayer, and one of unimpeachable character."

Howard added that it would be unfortunate for colored people if either political party succeeded in passing the Marcantonio bill as drawn, because it would obligate colored voters to the responsible party for its passage "when they are getting nothing in return."

Senator moving its consideration. This was the second week that has elapsed since a motion for its consideration became in order. Opponents of the measure have threatened a filibuster, and its supporters have shown an unwillingness to meet the threat.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.
NOV 19 1943

Washington Footnotes

BY CARROLL KILPATRICK

Washington Bureau, The Birmingham Age-Herald

At the moment, the prospect is for victory on the part of the little band of filibusterers who are opposed to the anti-poll tax bill soon to come before the Senate. No one on the other side is half as much concerned in the matter as the poll tax senators, so the leadership of the opposition is not so determined and well organized as is the minority from the South.

Sen. Connally, of Texas, will provide the brains for the Southern group and Sen. Bilbo, of Mississippi, the brawn. The Mississippian glories in the brief bit of fame which he achieves each year in the filibuster against the anti-poll tax measure. The Texan provides the fight and the leadership.

The only way the battle-of-words can be broken is by the adoption of the cloture rule. It takes a two-thirds majority to adopt this rule putting a limit on the amount of time each member may speak. Under the circumstances, it is virtually impossible to get cloture.

The bill passed the House several months ago by an overwhelming vote, but the rules of the House are different from those of the Senate. There is limitation of debate on all matters in the House, while in the Senate there is seldom any limitation on the time a member may hold the floor.

52e - 1943

Midwest GOP Solons Fail To Sign Poll Tax Petition

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Illinois

(Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—With only 60 more signatures needed on the House petition to bring the anti-poll tax bill on the floor, a clique of Midwest Republicans was discovered this week to be holding back the campaign against the vote levy.

A total of 218 signatures is needed on the petition which has been before the House for more than a month now.

Rep. George H. Bender (R., Ohio) is leading the drive to get the petition for Rep. Vito Marcantonio's H.R. 7 completed by next week end when the House will take a two-week recess. This would bring the measure before the house in May and leave a year and a half to get it through the Senate where it previously was filibustered to death.

APR 1943

Congressmen in Midwest states who have not yet signed the petition include:

ILLINOIS: Chauncey Reed, Noah Mason, Anton Johnson, Robert Chiperfield, Leslie Arends, Jessie Sumner, William Wheat, Sid Simpson, Evan Howell and James Heidinger—all Republicans.

INDIANA: Charles Halleck, Robert Grant, Forest A. Harness and Ray Springer—all Republicans.

KANSAS: U. S. Guyer, Thomas Winter, Edward Rees, Clifford Hope and Frank Carlson—all Republicans.

MISSOURI: (Democrats)—C. Jasper Bell, Roger Slaughter, Clarence Cannon, Orville Zimmerman and John Corcoran. (Republicans)—Nat Arnold, Max Schwabe, William Cole, Walter Ploeser and William Elmer.

OHIO: (Democrats)—Michael Kirwan and Michael Feighan. (Republicans)—Robert Jones, Cliff Clevenger, Clarence Brown, Thomas Jenkins, Alvin Weichel, Earl Lewis and Frederick Smith.

MICHIGAN: (Democrat)—Louis Rabaut. (Republicans)—Earl Michener, Paul Shafer, Clare Hoffman, Bartel Jonkman, William Blackney, Fred Crawford, Albert Engel, Roy Woodruff, Fred Bradley, John Bennett and George Dondero.

DRAMA MARKS BITTER DEBATE, VOTES 265-110

Chicago, Illinois

Chicago Bee

MAY 30 1943

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The sailor's voice broke in on the heated debates as he jumped to a gallery railing and perilously clung to a pillar in an effort to speak. The excitement which followed muffled his voice, but those closest said they heard him say: "I want to speak for thousands who can't be here. The poll tax is undemocratic. Colored men fight beside us on the ships and we dont ask them to pay poll tax. I . . . ." He was being hauled away from the rail by secret service men and house attendants when his voice rang out:

"Mr. Speaker, do I have the floor?" MAY 30 1943

The sailor later identified himself as Evan Owen, 21, a navy second class signalman from San Francisco. He insisted that he did not even know the nature of the legislation but had only visited the house to see "how democracy clicked."

Poll Tax

MAY 30 1943

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"There is such a thing as a patriotic desire," she said, "to see that America is true to herself. Who are we," she asked, "to talk about democracy when we suppress one group."

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Opposition came from representatives of the seven southern states which have poll tax. They fought the bill on the grounds that it is unconstitutional, that it invades state's rights, that it is Communistic inspired, and that it raised an issue dangerous to national unity during the war.

Proponents of the bill charged that the poll tax disfranchises southern Negroes and whites, and demanded that it be abolished to extend the benefits of democracy to all Americans.

Big Wind Bilbo On Loose, Set For Poll Tax Filibuster

Chicago Defender

JUN 5 1943

By SAM LACEY

(Defender Staff Correspondent)

WASHINGTON — "The anti-poll tax bill hasn't got any more than a passing chance in the Senate than a snowball has in hell," Those words are from the lips of Sen. Theodore Bilbo, the fast-talk-ing, race-hating Mississippian whose chief claim to face is that he leads all filibustering opposition to legislation that is in the leastwise signed to protect the rights of the Negro.

"This bill hasn't got a chance," he went on, "and I think that people behind it are doing country a great disservice in trying to put it through now when we're all tied up in a war. There playing politics and they know everybody knows there isn't any thing they can gain by it."

His attention was called to the fact that passage of the measure would bring about an urge for 12,800,000 colored citizens to lend closer cooperation to the war effort.

Calls It A Dream

"Bosh!" was Bilbo's rejoinder. "They dream, these n——r agitators dream by day and dream by night. You see, it's all right for you people to talk about this thing as a ing to organize the country, but it doesn't. This sort of thing is bound to breed discontent and friction. The reason is that everyone but anything to him.

"Perry Howard is a s few ignorant agitators realize that this thing is just what Randolph says it is—'a program to develop action in achieving social, economic

Those words are from the lips of and political equality' for them Sen. Theodore Bilbo, the fast-talk-n——r, and always it's social equal ing, race-hating Mississippian whose ity that is first in their minds. It is chief claim to face is that he leads this social aspect that makes the all filibustering opposition to legis-clash in the South. We just aren't lation that is in the leastwise de-going to stand for that."

signed to protect the rights of the Asked if he'd be willing to dis-Negro.

"This bill hasn't got a chance," close what method of attack he went on "and I think that there- plans to use to defeat the bill, Bilbo replied: "Certainly. I'll just talk it people behind it are doing the to death, that's all. I'm prepared country a great disservice in trying about equality in this and to put it through right now to talk for six months, in that.

all tied up in a war. There're just playing politics and they know and for me. And I've got 20 or 25 other everybody knows there isn't any- nitely won't, even if it fellows who'll go along with me, thing they can gain by it." won't permit a single n-

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Praises Perry Howard

"Well, in the very first place it's educational test, in tax. We

Attacks Unions

Asked about his reactions to criticism that is frequently directed against him by various colored organizations and individuals, Bilbo said:

"Let's get this war won first, then talk about the peace."

Four pictures adorn the walls of Senator Theodore Bilbo (D., Miss.) here in the United States Senate office building.

Negro was entitled to a voice in the planning of the post-war world, in asmuch as black men were playing such a vital part in the war on the Axis, Sen. Theodore Bilbo, one of the leading reactionaries of the Upper House, said last week:

Thomas Jefferson, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Bilbo. Or perhaps they do not consider that this is a war for democracy.

They are George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, Robert E. Lee, Nathan Hale, Patrick Henry, Andrew Jackson, Daniel Webster, Alexander Hamilton, Benjamin Franklin, Robert Fulton, Eli Whitney, Samuel F. B. Morse, Cyrus H. McCormick, Thomas Edison, Alexander Graham Bell, Henry Ford, Orville and Wilbur Wright, Luther Burbank, Dr. Walter Reed, Dr. Jonas Salk, Dr. Charles Drew, Dr. Percy Julian, Dr. Ernest Just, Dr. George Washington Carver, Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, Dr. Louis T. Wright, Dr. William A. Hinton, Dr. Numa P. G. Adams, Dr. Charles Richard Drew, Dr. Hildrus A. Poindexter, Dr. Rudolph Matas, Dr. Alexander Augustus Schomburg, Dr. Arthur Alexander Schomburg, Dr. Charles Henry Garland, Dr. Charles Edward Lincoln, Dr. Charles Victor Roman

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Midwest GOP Solons Fail To Sign Poll Tax Petition

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Illinois (Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—With only 60 more signatures needed on the House petition to bring the anti-poll tax bill on the floor, a clique of Midwest Republicans was discovered this week to be holding back the campaign against the vote levy.

A total of 218 signatures is needed on the petition which has been before the House for more than a month now.

Rep. George H. Bender (R., Ohio) is leading the drive to get the petition for Rep. Vito Marcantonio's H.R. 7 completed by next week end when the House will take a two-week recess. This would bring the measure before the house in May and leave a year and a half to get it through the Senate where it previously was filibustered to death.

APR 17 1943

Congressmen in Midwest states who have not yet signed the petition include:

ILLINOIS: Chauncey Reed, Noah Mason, Anton Johnson, Robert Chiperfield, Leslie Arends, Jessie Sumner, William Wheat, Sid Simpson, Evan Howell and James Heidinger—all Republicans.

INDIANA: Charles Halleck, Robert Grant, Forest A. Harness and Ray Springer—all Republicans.

KANSAS: U. S. Guyer, Thomas Winter, Edward Rees, Clifford Hope and Frank Carlson—all Republicans.

MISSOURI: (Democrats)—C. Jasper Bell, Roger Slaughter, Clarence Cannon, Orville Zimmerman and John Corcoran. (Republicans)—Nat Arnold, Max Schwabe, William Cole, Walter Ploeser and William Elmer.

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Poll Tax

MAY 30 1943

Loose, Filibuster Big Wind Bilbo On Deck Set For Poll Tax Filibuster

By SAM LACEY
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

WASHINGTON — "The anti-poll tax bill hasn't got any m[illegible] passing the Senate than a snowball has in hell."

Those words are from the lips of Sen. Theodore Bilbo, the fast-talk-ing, race-hating Mississippian whose chief claim to fame is that he leads all filibustering opposition to legislation that is in the least wise designed to protect the rights of the Negro.

"This bill hasn't got a chance," he went on, "and I think that people behind it are doing country a great disservice in trying to put it through now when we're all tied up in a war. There're playing politics and they know everybody knows there isn't any thing they can gain by it."

His attention was called to the fact that passage of the measure would bring about an urge for 800,000 colored citizens to closer cooperation to the war effort.

"Bosh!" was Bilbo's rejoinder. "They dream, these n——r agitators. They dream by day and dream by

Asked if he did not believe the Negro was entitled to a voice in the planning of the post-war world, in-Thomas Jefferson, Franklin D. asmuch as black men were playing Roosevelt and Bilbo. Or perhaps such a vital part in the war on the Axis, Sen. Theodore Bilbo, one of since they appear to represent th the leading reactionaries of the Up-senator's idea of greatness.

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"Let's get this war won first, then talk about the peace."

Four pictures adorn the walls of Senator Theodore Bilbo (D., Miss.) here in the United States Senate office building.

Attacks Unions

Asked about his reactions to th criticism that is frequently directed against him by various colored or-ganizations and individuals, Bilbo said:

"The reporter then wanted to know what remedy, if any, the Negro had for the condition which so flagrantly robs him of his rights as a citizen.

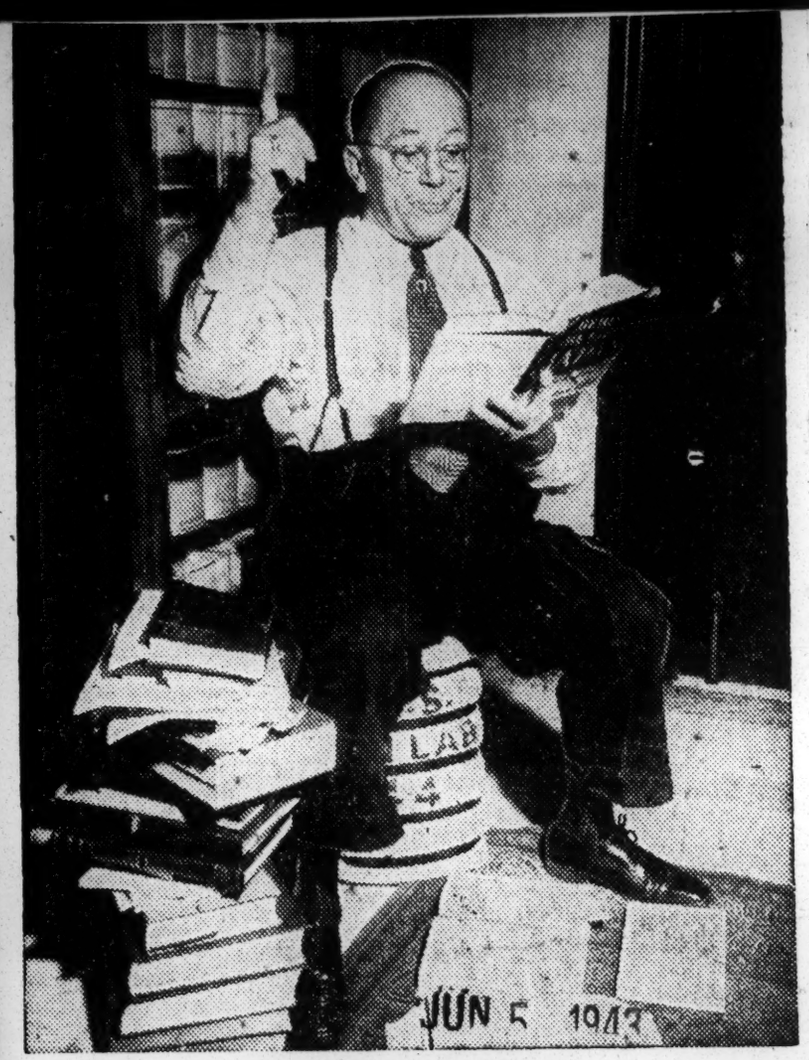
"They ought to go about it the right way. They know the only way they can dictate to a state under the constitution is to amend the constitution. A constitutional amendment which has this sort of thing as its aim would get by both houses, the senate is two-thirds for it, and the house is two-thirds for it. That's all they need to get it passed. Two-thirds of both houses will even get it over a veto of the President."

He was asked if the same tactics wouldn't be used by his colleagues and him to defeat such an amendment. His answer was that this is unlikely since some of the very men who filibuster it would not be opposed to its passage "in the right way."

"However," he added hastily, "that still wouldn't let the n——r vote."

JUN 5 1943

Asked if he did not believe the



SEN. THEODORE BILBO

Mississippi solon who told Defender reporter he is ready to filibuster for a year and a half to stop the anti-poll tax bill.

"They amuse me. All of us (he obviously was referring to his henchmen in the reactionary block) get a big laugh at Walter White with his 'NAACP' and Randolph and his 'On to Washington' and the rest of them. We call it a funny picture, these fellows raising such a racket over our charging the n——r two dollars to vote, yet they charge the same n——r $25 to join their unions so they can work and earn a living for their wives and children."

With that Bilbo arose, indicating that the interview was at an end.

"Yes, and this is just a big hullabaloo by a bunch of n——r catering politicians, who dream of social equality. And it comes from the White House on down. Why, the President has done more for the n——r than has been done for him before in history. And Ole Lady Roosevelt, why she goes all-out, having them down to the White House and entertaining them and going to their clubs and to their homes.

"But it's all still just a dream," Bilbo added as a parting shot.

JUN 5 1942

Bilbo Mixes Poll Tax With His Entertaining

DEC 18 1943
Peoples Voice
DEC 8 1943
New York, N. Y.

Most Southern Senators and Congressmen just cannot refrain from dragging in their favorite topic of social equality, no matter what issue is under discussion. Senator Theodore G. Bilbo, of Mississippi, is no exception, in fact, he is one of the leading spouters on social equality, so it is not surprising that he answers a letter on the anti-poll tax bill and drags into the statement: "I do not entertain Negroes."

Miss Mary W. Francis of New York City, who happens to be white, wrote Senator Bilbo protesting against the announced filibuster on the anti-poll tax bill. In the course of her letter she mentioned that she had several relatives in Mississippi.

In reply, Senator Bilbo stated that the only way to prevent a filibuster would be to get the supporters of the anti-poll tax bill to withdraw it. He named Lee Pressman, chief attorney for the CIO; William Green, president of the AFL; Senators Mead and Wagner of New York, Pepper of Florida, [illegible] Illinois, and Van Nuys of Indiana; Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt; and Walter White of the NAACP.

DEC 18 1943

FIXES "BLAME"

"The responsibility of a filibuster will be on the shoulders of these people whose names I have given you, because they are the main ones that are pushing this piece of Negro-sponsored, unconstitutional legislation for passage. If they press for action on this un-American legislation in the midst of a war, knowing it means a filibuster, they should be blamed for it."

Defender Chicago, Ill.

WOMEN ARE URGED TO DOUBLE EFFORTS TO ABOLISH THE POLL TAX

Throughout the country last week, thousands of similar letters were sent to citizens of all races by the "National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax" with headquarters at 10 Independence avenue, Washington, D. C., urging that they write, telephone, wire or visit their senators to vote for CLOTURE and PASSAGE of HR-7.



Mrs. Taylor

The letter told of the fine work done during the summer in support of the bill to abolish the poll tax restriction on voting and assured the citizenry that its effect was felt on Capitol Hill, for senators came back to work with increased respect for the support which this bill has throughout the country. The sub-committee of the Senate Judiciary committee reported 3 to 2 in favor of the bill.

DELAY TACTICS

The Senate Judiciary committee, however, voted to hold two days of hearings, October 25-26 on the constitutionality of HR-7. Senators Carl Hatch of New Mexico and Tom Connally of Texas are leading the delay movement. The national committee is asking every national, state and local organization to concentrate now on urging their members in the critical states to obtain their senators' pledges to vote for CLOTURE AND PASSAGE of HR-7.

DELEGATIONS NEEDED

State-wide organizations have been asked to send delegates to Washington. The most important single event in October is the mobilization of your entire community and all its organizations to call for poll tax repeal. It is interesting to know that Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt's name heads the list of sponsors who are leading the campaign for the passage of the bill.

Representative delegations are asked to call on newspapers, churches, radio and labor organizations and explain the importance of this measure to help carry out our war aims and confound the enemy's accusation that we are not a DEMOCRACY. Free material available for use in your organization and community explaining "What the Poll Tax Means," and the Poll Tax Fact Sheet, editorials, radio skits, petitions, copy for newspaper ads can be had by writing headquarters. Remember victory in the Senate campaign to repeal the poll tax depends on our joint work throughout the month of October. October 17 through 23 has been designated by the national committee as NATIONAL ANTI-POLL TAX WEEK.

Jewish Group Declares Poll Tax Defeats Unity

OCT 23 1943
People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

"Because not many Jews live in the poll tax states and therefore are not disfranchised by the poll tax, it does not follow that Jews are not directly affected by this un-American tax which set up degrees of citizenship those willing and able to pay for the privilege of voting and those unable to do so," declared Max Perlow, acting president of the Jewish Peoples Committee declared this week.

He further stated that any form of discrimination affects the Jewish people as it does all other Americans and the Jewish Peoples Committee considers the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill (HR 7), one of the most important win-the-war measures now before Congress and calls upon its members and friends everywhere to work for its enactment by the United States Senate.

In a letter to Senators Robert F. Wagner and James M. Mead, the committee declared that "the poll tax is un-American and un-democratic and must be eliminated. The small minority of poll tax senators may attempt a filibuster. Should this be permitted, it would be disastrous to our war effort as it would prevent a number of measures vitally important to our war effort from being considered by the Senate. This must not be permitted to occur. We know that you, together with the majority of the members of the Senate, favor passage of the bill which has already been overwhelmingly passed by the House of Representatives."

OCT 23 1943

10 Leading Lawyers Hold Bill To End Poll Tax Constitutional

SEP 23 1943
PM
PM's Bureau
New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax published today a memorandum signed by 10 outstanding lawyers, six of them from poll-tax states, holding that the anti-poll tax bill pending in Congress is constitutional.

SEP 23 1943

Some members of Congress have ducked the poll-tax issue by contending that it was outside of the power of Congress to touch except through a constitutional amendment.

The 10 lawyers who signed the memorandum included:

George Gordon Battle, of North Carolina and Virginia, and long a leading member of the New York Bar.

Walton Hamilton, of Tennessee, now professor of constitutional law at Yale.

Myres McDougal, of Mississippi, also of the Yale Law School.

Leon Greene, of Louisiana and Texas, now dean of Northwestern University Law School.

Robert K. Wattach and M. T. Van Hecke, dean and ex-dean of the Law School, University of North Carolina.

Lloyd K. Garrison, dean of the Wisconsin Law School.

Charles Bunn, of the Wisconsin Law School.

Walter Gellhorn, of Columbia University Law School.

Edwin Borchard, of Yale Law School.

SEP 23 1943

They quoted a recent concurring opinion by Justice Robert Jackson on state exclusion of indigent citizens which said:

"We should say now, and in no uncertain terms, that a man's mere property status, without more, cannot be used by a state to test, qualify, or limit his rights as a citizen of the U. S. A. . . . The mere state of being without funds is a neutral fact—constitutionally an irrelevancy like race, creed or color."

Brant contended that Congress had frequently acted to prevent corruption in Federal elections, and that the poll tax was "an agency of wholesale corruption, employed by political machines to debauch and control both Federal and state elections."

SEP 23 1943

Meanwhile, President Philip Murray of the CIO addressed a letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee appealing for prompt action on the bill. Asserting that the poll tax was a "defect in our democracy" which Axis propaganda was fully exploiting, Murray said it was "an obstacle to our military efforts."

Pres. Hutchins Says U.S. Must End Poll Tax

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

CHICAGO, Sept. (ANP) — President Robert M. Hutchins of the University of Chicago last week told delegates to the American Bar Association meeting at the Drake hotel that "one may be permitted to doube whether America is in any sense prepared for world democracy" when it permits glaring discrepancies to exist at home.

SEP 4 - 1943

"Though we are the most democratic of nations," he declared, "we have yet to get rid of certain beams in our own eyes that must distort our view of democracy on a world scale."

"The division among us between those who work and those who won and do not work, the poll tax, racial discrimination, government by pressure groups rather than the rule of all for the good of all—these things must go far to start any commitment on our part to a world society in which they must disappear," continued the noted educator.

Other nations must be persuaded and not forced to become democratic, added Hutchins who contended that

SEP 4 - 1943

"Surely the most persuasive argument, the argument whcih proves that democracy is not an unattainable or undesirable ideal, is the practice of democracy in one great country and the justice, the unity, the peace and the happiness which it brings with it. This involves a series of very painful operations, the removal of the beams from our eyes."

Senate Group Claims Poll Tax Is Illegal and Unconstitutional

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky. —

DEC 7

Washington, Dec. 21 (U.P.)—The Senate Judiciary Committee, recommending passage of a House-approved bill to outlaw the payment of a poll tax as a requirement for voting, today charged that most poll taxes were written to prohibit the Negro and poor white from casting a ballot.

The committee's report charged that a poll tax was illegal and unconstitutional, basing their allegation on the thirteenth and fourteenth amendments to the constitution which prohibit states from denying citizens a vote because of race and from enforcing "any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States."

The report was accompanied by the views of the minority—Senators Tom Connally, (D., Texas), Warren R. Austin, (R., Vt.), Carl A. Hatch, (D., N. M.), Joseph C. O'Mahoney, (D., Wyo.), Charles O. Andrews, (D., Fla.), and Chapman Revercomb, (R., W. Va.) They base their argument against the poll tax [illegible] tion on article one, section two of the constitution which states that only electors who have the qualification to vote for their state legislature may vote for a member of Congress.

The minority contended that the only way to abolish poll taxes is by a constitutional amendment rather than by legislation.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Poll Tax States Favor Levy

By GEORGE GALLUP.
Director, American Institute of Public Opinion.

PRINCETON, N. J., Aug. 24.—Like federal anti-lynching legislation, anti-poll tax bills [illegible] virtually a constitutional amendment.

All but a handful of congressmen from the eight southern states which require payment of a poll tax as a prerequisite to voting have opposed passage of the bill. It was a threat of filibuster in the senate which kept shelved an anti-poll tax bill passed during the last session of the house with a vote of 265 to 110.

In order to discover whether the eligible voters of the poll tax states want the tax repealed or left in force, the institute has conducted a survey in those states on the following question:

"Do you think the people in your state should have to continue paying a poll tax in order to vote?"

A similar survey was conducted in 1941. A comparison reveals virtually no change in attitude since then among regular voters who have paid their poll taxes. The majority favor keeping the poll tax requirement.

Here are the results of the two surveys:

Favor retaining poll tax, today, 53%; in 1941, 59%.

Favor abolishing poll tax, today, 37%; in 1941, 35%.

No opinion, today, 10%; in 1941, 12%.

The eight states which require payment of poll taxes are Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas and Texas. The Tennessee legislature abolished the poll tax law in February but the state supreme court overruled its action and the tax remains in effect.

Stiff voting requirements, poll taxes and the like are not a peculiar southern institution. In the early days in this country, only people who owned property could vote. At one period in U. S. Colonial history, only one person in 10 was eligible to vote in the city of Philadelphia, for example.

AUG 25 1943

The poll tax system in the south is of comparatively recent origin, going back only to the period between 1880 and the early 1900's. The poll taxes were instituted at that time chiefly as a means of combatting the popularity of the Populist party among the poor whites of the south.

Poll Taxers at Bay

New Masses



WE DON'T know the loss of exactly how many cruisers or bombers would be equivalent to success of the tactics now being employed to defeat [illegible] tax bill recently reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee. But there is no question that every delay in correcting this long-standing disgrace represents a substantial Axis victory. This is a literal truth. Anyone familiar with maneuvers like the O'Mahoney proposal for a constitutional amendment. The only way to Japan's plans for this war and with her defeat this evil [illegible] is to exert enough prosecution of it knows the extent to which public pressure upon [illegible] that the our enemy's appeal to the colonial and necessary two-thirds of its membership will other colored peoples of Asia and the South vote for cloture on the debate. If this mo- Pacific has been based upon our denial of ment is not seized upon by all the country's the franchise to millions of Negroes in the democratic forces, we and our allies among South. For twenty years the Japanese fas- the United Nations will suffer a serious cists have made capital of this gross imper- defeat.

NOV 23 1943

Smelter Union Scores Poll Tax

SEP 16

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Ellen McGrath
(Special to the Daily Worker)

BUTTE, Sept. 15.—A win-the-war report submitted by the general executive board to the 312 delegates attending the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers CIO here today, called for the abolition of the poll tax on the basis of the "unity of all people on a program which all of us can accept."

"There is ample evidence in the convention that we will unite all our people not only on the war issues but upon all issues that have bothered this union. It is my hope that this will be accomplished."

Delegates took a hand in the convention floor fight for abolition of the poll tax by telegraphing the

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Poll Tax

Mead in Fight to Abolish the Poll Tax

PM
New York, N. Y.



Senator James M. Mead (seated) is shown in his Washington office with a delegation of his New York constituents to whom he pledged a determined fight for the passage of HR 7, the bill to abolish the Poll Tax. His visitors are (left to right): The Rev. Richard Morford, chairman, New York State Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax; Leslie S. Perry, NAACP; Clifford T. McAvoy, CIO legislative director; Alexander Christison, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, CIO; the Rev. W. M. B. Scott; C. L. Patrick, United Steel Workers; and Alfred G. Larke, secretary, Greater Buffalo Industrial Union Council.

NOV 8 1943

NOV 23 1943

Poll Tax

Washington, D. C.

AUG 28 1943

The Post carried the results of the Gallup Poll on the question of whether the Southern people favor repeal of the poll tax.

Post

We wish to point out that the result of the poll, which shows a great majority against repeal of the poll tax, has been obtained by polling only [illegible] of the voting population who have paid up their poll taxes. We think this does not represent a fair cross-section of the Southern people and creates an entirely erroneous impression.

MRS. KATHERINE SHRYVER.
Executive secretary, National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax.
Washington, Aug. 25.

Post

Washington, D. C.

Poll Tax Gold Brick

NOV 23 1943

So that our readers may have access to a view at variance with [illegible] on, we print on this page today a lusty denunciation of our editorial of November 20 entitled "H.R. 7." We cannot refrain from pointing out, however, that the arguments used by Katherine Shryver, executive secretary of the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, are shot through with false assumptions. The issue cries out for candid deliberation but is made the subject of impassioned and reckless crusading.

Our critic makes the flat statement that "there is no denying that the poll tax discriminates against the Negroes, more than against the whites," since Negroes are at the bottom of the income scale in the South. To say that a tax which applies to everyone discriminates against one race is to play fast and loose with the intrinsic meaning of that voting in the South are the education tests Negroes were not enfranchised. Their political rights there are as flagrantly withheld as they are in Mississippi where the poll tax still prevails. [illegible] would be to enfranchise only the poor whites of the South and thus to sharpen the discrimination against colored citizens. Considering the extravagance of its claims, we are rather surprised that the Committee to Abolish the

NOV 2 - 1943

word. Presumably [illegible] means that if and the primary systems which deny colored all the nonv[illegible] of the poll-tax States were voters the opportunity of joining the only allowed to vote, more Negroes than whites party which ever has a chance of electing a would be enfranchised. But everyone with candidate. These obstacles would remain— any understanding of the issue knows that re- much as we deplore it—and their operation peal of the poll tax would not enfranchise the would probably be tightened with repeal of Negroes of the South, except possibly in the poll tax.

Tennessee. The greatest obstacles to Negro When Louisiana abolished its poll tax the

Poll Tax does not also contend that its bill would enfranchise the Negroes of the District of Columbia.

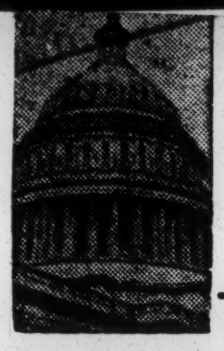
We have fought consistently for abolition of the poll tax by constitutional means. We shall continue to do so. In the meantime, however, we do not intend to be swept off our feet, as some members of Congress have been swept off theirs, by fantastic arguments in favor of an unconstitutional bill. Certainly minority groups should be the first to see that their interest will not be served by breaching the Constitution, which is the greatest safeguard of their rights, to obtain what would unquestionably prove to be a gold brick.

The Observer,
Greenville, S.C.
Dec., 17th, 1943

The Little Rock (Arkansas) Arkansas Gazette says:

This is the tax that disfranchises "the negro in the South." That statement was made by a news commentator on one of the national broadcasting chains by way of identifying the anti-poll tax bill which has passed the House and was approved by the Senate's Judiciary Committee. Equivalent statements have repeatedly been made by poli tax opponents inside and outside of Congress, and undoubtedly have been accepted at face value by many well-meaning people outside the South.

But so far as the tax is concerned, whites and negroes stand on the same footing in the eight Southern States employing that voting qualification. In Arkansas, for example, any negro can get a poll tax receipt by paying his dollar. The real quarrel of the South's critics is not with the poll tax but with election laws, or (as in Arkansas) with party rules restricting membership in the Democratic party and participation in Democratic primaries to members of the white race. Outlawing the poll tax in elections for federal offices would not of itself open to negroes the Democratic primaries which, over most of the South, constitute the real elections. And outlawing the poll tax would not enable any person to vote who could not otherwise cast a ballot under the election laws of a state.



THEY'RE SAYING IN WASHINGTON—

Daily Worker
New York, N.

Poll-Taxers' Threat

Daily Worker Washington Bureau, Washington, D. C., Dec. 9.

IT is easy enough to understand why 18 Republican Senators voted against the Lucas-Green soldier vote bill. They were convinced that the nation's servicemen would pile up substantial majorities for the Roosevelt administration, and as usual they placed politics before the war effort.

The Republicans had advance knowledge of a Gallup poll which showed an almost two to one margin for the Democrats in the armed forces. They knew because Dr. George Gallup had sent a confidential memorandum on his survey to newspapers, including plenty of Republican persuasion, several weeks before he made his poll public. So they decided they'd be better off if 10,000,000 soldiers didn't vote.

But why did every Southern Senator with the exception of Claude Pepper of Florida line up with the Republicans? Why did the poll tax Democrats agree to do the dirty work for the Republicans?

We can, of course, dismiss the lengthy state's rights speeches as so much verbiage, and a couple of potent immediate factors emerge to the surface.

* * *

CONGRESS has already acted to repeal the poll tax qualification for soldiers. This doesn't mean anything as long as soldiers don't vote. And only 27,000 voted in 1942. State election laws prevented a single soldier from voting. And only 89 votes of servicemen were counted in Mississippi.

But if effective soldier vote machinery is set up, then last year's action by Congress becomes the entering wedge against the poll tax system as a whole.

There is another immediate factor. The Southern Democrats need the support of Republican Senators to kill the anti-poll tax bill. There is no doubt that they have now obtained sufficient Republican votes to defeat cloture against a filibuster.

The desire of the Southern Democrats to defeat the anti-poll tax bill influenced their decision. There isn't any question about that. But it seems to me that this is not the whole story.

The fact is that the Southern Senators have taken a step which may throw the 1944 election to the Republicans. This is a serious step. And I do not believe that wily Southern Senators took it without a full realization of the consequences.

SENATOR JOSIAH W. BAILEY, that pious friend of the North Carolina tobacco and power interests, has given us a glimpse of what is going on in the minds of the most reactionary Southern Democrats. Bailey threatened a new party of Southern Democrats which would throw the 1944 election into the House.

This is not a wholly new idea for Bailey. Secretary Ickes revealed that during the 1938 Congressional elections Bailey met with Herbert Hoover. And, according to Ickes, the North Carolina Democrat was offered the Republican nomination in 1940.

A more recent development has been the Byrd-for-President movement which is being fostered in several Southern States and is backed by Jim Farley. This would tie in neatly with a new Southern party designed to win the 1944 election for the Republicans.

These are pressure moves, of course. The minimum demand of the Byrd backers undoubtedly is that Wallace be scuttled as the President's running mate. And then the poll taxers have lots of immediate legislative demands.

But it seems to me that the possibility of a bolt by the poll tax Democrats cannot be wholly dismissed. Their alliance with the Republicans is developing. They are worried about the growth of new progressive political movements in the South. They fear that their grip is weakening. And some of them may be ready for a desperate political gamble which will perpetuate their power.

THERE has been a tendency in the administration to meet the threats of the poll tax Democrats with appeasement. James F. Byrnes, who was one of the most reactionary poll tax Senators, was given one of the highest posts in the administration. But they have obviously not been appeased. On the contrary, they are growing more arrogant.

The dangers of appeasing poll tax reaction can be seen in the case of Senator Lister Hill of Alabama, who is probably the most liberal Senator from a poll tax state. Hill faces stiff opposition in his primary next year. Powerful industrial interests are backing a reactionary corporation lawyer called James Simpson. And Hill has retreated on issue after issue. He was one of those who voted against the soldier vote bill. He voted for the Smith-Connally Act.

The effect has been to weaken the campaign for Hill, to demoralize the unity of the labor and progressive forces of Alabama. There is gossip in the capital that the forces backing Simpson may enter a couple of candidates in the field who will masquerade as liberals and exploit Hill's mistakes. John L. Lewis' boys in Alabama are said to be playing with the idea of supporting Hugh Locke, law partner of Horace Wilkinson who started the vicious "white supremacy" movement last year.

There isn't any question that the revolt of the poll taxers confront the administration with serious problems. But the poll taxers' threats can't be met with appeasement. They can be met only with a firm stand, and with encouragement of those forces in the South that will really stand behind the administration and the war effort.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

People In Poll Tax States Still Favor Law's Retention

By GEORGE GALLUP.
Director, American Institute of Public Opinion.

Princeton, N. J., Aug. 24.—Like federal antilynching legislation, antipoll tax bills are virtually a Congressional perennial.

All but a handful of Congressmen from the eight Southern states which require payment of a poll tax as a prerequisite to voting have opposed passage of the bill. It was a threat of filibuster in the Senate which kept shelved an antipoll tax bill passed during the last session by the House with a vote of 265 to 110.

Attitude Remains the Same.

In order to discover whether the eligible voters of the poll tax states want the tax repealed or left in force, the Institute has conducted a survey in those states on the following question:

"Do you think the people in your state should have to continue paying a poll tax in order to vote?"

A similar survey was conducted in 1941. A comparison reveals virtually no change in attitude since then among regular voters who have paid their poll taxes. The majority favor keeping the poll tax requirement.

Favor Retention of Tax.

Here are the results of the two surveys:

Eligible Voters In Poll Tax States.	Today	1941
Favor Retaining Poll Tax	53%	53%
Favor Abolishing Poll Tax	37	35
No Opinion	10	12

The eight states which require payment of poll taxes are Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Texas. The Tennessee Legislature abolished the poll tax law in February, but the State Supreme Court overruled its action and the tax remains in effect.

Requirements Not New.

Stiff voting requirements, poll taxes and the like are not a peculiar Southern institution. In the early days in this country, only people who owned property could vote. At one period in United States colonial history, only one person in ten was eligible to vote in Philadelphia, for example.

The poll tax in the South is of comparatively recent origin, going back only to the period between 1880 and the early 1900's. The poll taxes were instituted at that time chiefly, as a means of combatting the popularity of the Populist Party among the poor whites of the South.

Negro Voting Strength Up

Portsmouth, Va. Star
December 5, 1943

Tax Payments Far Surpass Those of Recent Years

A spirited campaign is being possibly pushed among local colored people, many politically-minded people approach of the dead-sponsored by the Colored Central here, reliable sources state that the payment of poll taxes Civic Committee, a citywide or-colored campaign is primarily for penalty is applied, the ganization formed in recent weeks, the purpose of increasing active City Treasurer is The colored voters campaign interest in municipal affairs and one of the greatest apparently has the support of all civic welfare among local colored in years, it is observers of the colored population people.

With the approaching deadline for the payment of poll taxes before the penalty is applied, the City Treasurer's office for days, and among the colored people, with December 5 falling on Sunday, tomorrow is likely to see a upwards of 2,000 colored voters last-minute rush on the part of have been listed. Some quarters many who wish to avoid the penalty that the colored goal is 3,000 that will be applied, after qualified voters.

The current voters campaign is believed to have been launched principally by the Colored Young Men's Civic Organization, the group that is said to have taken the initial step in forming the Central Civic Committee.

The vote drive among colored residents is led by the Rev. Harvey N. Johnson, pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church. While the unusual increase in colored voters may possibly pose questions among politically-minded people here, reliable sources state that the payment of poll taxes is primarily for colored residents.

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CONGRESSMAN RELATES EVILS OF POLL TAX TO SENATE JUDICIARY BODY



Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Congressman William L. Dawson of Illinios, lone Negro member of Congress, told a Senate Judiciary sub-committee last week that poll tax laws have led to "wholesale corruption and fraud" in the conduct of elections of federal officers. Committee members around the table are, left to right: Senators Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin, Frederick Van Nuys of Indiana, Ernest W. McFarland of Arizona, Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi and Abe Murdock of Utah.—Harris-Ewing News Photo.

MAP PLOT TO DELAY ACTION ON MEASURE

Pittsburgh, Pa
Courier

WASHINGTO[illegible] tle to give 10,000,000 voteless Americans, 4,000,000 of them Negroes, the right to vote, moved one step nearer victory last Friday when the Senate Judiciary committee by a vote of 12 to 6 reported out favorably the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill (H.R.7).

The bill is now placed on the calendar of the Senate and may be called up for debate by any senator.

SENATORS PLOT TO DEFEAT BILL

Action by the Senate committee, long delayed by stalling tactics of poll-tax Senator Tom Connally of Texas, precipitated a number of plots by poll-taxers from the eight Southern poll tax states designed to defeat the bill.

A secret meeting of 16 poll-tax senators, led by Connally and Ted (That Man) Bilbo from Mississippi, was exposed last week. At this meeting the Southerners mapped out strategy to substitute a constitutional amendment in place of the Marcantonio bill, if they failed in their efforts to prevent the bill coming to a vote through a filibuster.

Congressman Vito Marcantonio (ALP.-N.Y.), author of the bill, in a statement released here this week, warned that the poll-taxers, whom he described as "domestic fascists," were engaging in a number of varied plots to delay action on the measure.

O'MAHONEY'S BILL MAY BE REPORTED

The first step in the plot of the poll-tax group engineered in the Senate Judiciary committee meeting last Friday was, after failing to halt a favorable report on the Marcantonio bill, to attempt to vote out the O'Mahoney constitutional amendment for poll tax repeal. The latter of this amendment is that it requires a vote of three fourths of [illegible] state legislatures in order to be adopted; and, consequently is certain rejection by the votes of 13 Southern state legislatures.

The motion of O'Mahoney to report out his measure resulted in a tie vote in the committee of nine to nine. The motion was lost on Friday as result of this tie vote. But the self-styled "friend of the Negro," Senator William Langer of North Dakota, whose amendment to the federal aid to education bill two weeks ago resulted in defeat of that legislation, again came to the aid of the poll-taxers by a motion to reconsider the vote. As a result it is possible now for the O'Mahoney amendment to be reported out at the same time as the Marcantonio bill unless lines in the committee hold to prevent its adoption.

The twelve senators who voted in favor of the Marcantonio bill were: Democratic Senators Van Nuys (Indiana), Chandler (Kentucky), Kilgore (West Virginia), Murdock (Utah), McFarland (Arizona), McCarran (Nevada) and Wheeler (Montana); and, Republican Senators Danaher (Connecticut), Langer (North Dakota), Wherry (Nebraska) and Ferguson (Michigan). Against the bill were four Democrats, Senators Connally (Texas), O'Mahoney (Wyoming), Hatch (New Mexico) and Andrews (Florida); and, two Republicans, Austin (Vermont) and Revercomb (West Virginia).

THREATENS FILIBUSTER

Threats of a Southern Democratic revolt were heard in both houses of Congress last week as result of action on anti-poll tax legislation. Representative Colmer of Mississippi last Thursday shouted out the slogan, "Remember Kentucky," in the House. He referred to a Republican victory in that state and impliedily threatened that if Senator Alben Barkley, Senate Democratic floor leader from Kentucky, who is up for re-election in 1944, should take up the anti-poll tax measure, poll-tax members of his own party would seek his defeat.

On the Senate side Senator Bilbo, also of Mississippi, openly threatened a filibuster.

Normally after a bill has been placed on the Senate calendar it is called up for debate by the Majority Leader Senator Barkley. Barkley, however, has indicated that he will not call up the bill, but will leave it to Senator Van Nuys, chairman of the Judiciary committee or some member of the committee to do so.

BARKLEY, VAN NUYS MAY STRADDLE FENCE

Fears were expressed here that further delay in bringing the bill to the floor would play into the hands of poll-taxers. The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax sent an appeal to "all Americans" to flood Senator Barkley and Senator Van Nuys with appeals to call up the anti-poll tax bill.

It was pointed out that both Van Nuys and Barkley, up for re-election in 1944, might try to straddle the fence on the issue, by giving lip-service to the bill, but failing to put up a vigorous fight to bring the measure to a vote.

Senators Eastland (Democrat, Miss.) and McClellan (Democrat, Ark.) announced Sunday they are preparing several hundred amendments to the anti-poll tax bill, estimating that weeks would be required for these "amendments."

These are obvious tactics, akin to the filibusters of preceding Congress[es] to derail or ra[il] approved bill which would eliminate payment of a poll tax as a prerequisite for voting in elections of Federal officials.

How Smith, Rankin Voted

Peoples Voice, New York, N. Y.

The records show that both Senator Ellison Smith of South Carolina and Representative John E. Rankin of Mississippi, have in the past two years voted against almost every measure of progressive major legislation to come up before Congress.

Smith was opposed to cloture on the anti-poll tax, on November 23, 1942; opposed the continuation of the National Youth Administration, June 28, 1943; was absent when the vote was taken on the vicious Smith-Connally anti-strike bill, May 5, 1943; opposed the President's veto of the Smith-Connally bill, June 25, 1943; was absent when the vote was taken on restoring appropriations for the full Domestic Branch of the Office Of War Information, June 30, 1943, and opposed price roll-backs, July 6, 1943. Out of 18 measures of major legislation, Smith voted against labor on 12 of them, and was absent on 3.

Rankin voted against abolishing the poll tax, October 13, 1942, and again, May 25, 1943; he voted against discontinuing the Dies Committee, the main job of which has been Red-baiting instead of weeding out the real Fascist danger in America; he voted against retaining Negro William Pickens in his treasury department post; he opposed the President's veto of the Smith-Connally bill, June 25, 1943, and voted against continuing the Domestic branch of the Office of War Information.

Out of 20 measures of major legislation, Rankin has voted against labor on 12.

Finish Off The Poll Tax

Journal and Guide

More than any other citizen, the American Negro has been denied the day-to-day rights of democracy. The outstanding denial has been the right to vote in eight Southern states because of the poll tax, discriminatory registration laws, and the white primary. Because he is the poorest of the poll-poor, the Negro is hit hardest by the poll tax requirement for voting in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

But the denial of democracy to ten millions Americans by means of a price tag on the ballot is not a purely Southern or Negro issue, as demagogic poll-tax Senators declare. The poll tax is a national—an American—issue. Walter White, secretary of the NAACP, has observed, "The denial to Negroes of the right to vote through such devices as the poll tax inevitably leads to the denial of the right of citizens of other races to vote." Of the ten million Southerners kept from voting by the poll tax, at least six million are white.

FILIBUSTERED TO DEATH

When Congress comes back to Washington in September, the anti-poll tax bill will be up again for Senate passage. In the last Congress, this highest legislative body shamefully permitted the Geyer-Pepper anti-poll tax bill to be filibustered to death by a handful of poll-tax Senators after it had passed the House by a 3-1 vote. These blustering poll-taxers threaten to repeat their performance this session. Senator Theodore (The Man) Bilbo, of Mississippi, has announced that he will filibuster for 18 months, if necessary.

Norfolk, Virginia

The only way to halt a filibuster of these enemies of democracy is to limit debate—or, in legislative language, "invoke cloture." To do this, a 2/3 vote of the Senate is necessary.

You, personally, can defeat Senator (The Man) Bilbo. You can write and urge your Senators to vote for cloture and to continue to vote for cloture (if the first cloture votes are not successful) until the filibuster is broken; then vote for the anti-poll tax itself (HR. 7).

Your Senators must refuse to agree to a "gentlemen's agreement" to withdraw HR 7 from further consideration, if cloture does not succeed on the first vote.

Let your Senators hear from you, from your friends, and from every Negro organization. Ask them to stand up for passage of HR 7, and to vote for cloture.

WRITE THEM TODAY.

It betrays the principles of the Declaration of Independence, makes mockery of the Constitution and our soldiers, white and Negro, who are giving their lives for democracy. Once and for all the Senate must act to give ten million American citizens the right to vote.

MILLIONS IN POLITICAL PEONAGE

To America-at-War, the abolition of the filibuster is vital to all-out war unity. It keeps millions of citizens in political peonage. It divides them from other Americans by keeping them from the experience of genuine democratic process. It is one of our greatest gifts to Axis propaganda.

Equal Rights For Post-War

OCT 2 1943

Sheboygan Press

By C. E. BROUGHTON,
Editor of the Sheboygan Press

When Lincoln freed the slaves and made his famous Gettysburg address he had in mind that all men were equal.

That equality had been born on the field of battle, but it has been nullified to some extent by the so-called Poll Tax. Last year a bill to abolish the Poll Tax passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 265 to 210, and then it slumbered in the senate judiciary committee. It will come up at this session of congress, and we hope it will pass.

OCT 2 1943

The Poll Tax law has affected both white and colored alike, but it had for its purpose disenfranchisement of the colored race. We would not have the people believe that the Poll Tax is a southern invention, because for centuries it has been in use. In ancient Greece the Poll Tax was resorted to and there, too, it was regarded as a badge of slavery. And again it was levied by Islam rulers on unbelievers, and it has been in vogue in European countries for years, always as a sort of a slavery tax.

OCT 2 1943

The Poll Tax has never been what one could conscientiously refer to as a freedom tax. During the reconstruction period following the war between the North and the South the former slave owners who did not believe in the right of franchise for the colored race inaugurated this tax for the sole purpose of holding the Negro down. First the Negro was barred from voting if he did not own property, and while education was made another test, still in the main this was a movement planned to humiliate and to put the Negro at a disadvantage over the white residents.

OCT 2 1943

In a book issued by Edwin R. Embree entitled "American Negroes" we find this interesting p

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"In some states literacy tests were adopted which provide that voters must be able to read and interpret given texts. Few Negroes, however, skilled in reading, have been able to 'interpret' to the pleasure of the white officials. A Negro graduate of Harvard who tried to register in Mississippi was asked to read from the Bible, the Constitution, a Latin book, and a Greek text, all of which he did fluently. Thereupon the registrar picked up a laundry slip with some Chinese characters written on it, thrust it into the man's face, and demanded: 'Now, daggone ye, what does this mean?' The Negro looked at it with a smile and answered, 'It means that you white folks are not going to let me vote'."

In more recent years an awakened south has realized that you can't continue to hold the Negro race in bondage by denial of suffrage and expect to continue friendly relations.

OCT 2 1943

Some of the best minds of the South have combined with a view of seeing the Poll Tax abolished in every southern state. At the last session of the Tennessee legislature the Poll Tax was repealed. This repeal was brought to the supreme court of that state and declared unconstitutional. This is the only state whose Poll Tax could be passed upon by the legislature. With the other seven Poll Tax states this provision is part of their constitutions and its removal would raise many complications, which is one of the reasons why the matter was brought to the Congress of the United States.

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Last year the anti-Poll-Tax bill, sponsored by Congressman Geyer and Senator Pepper was defeated by a filibuster in the senate, while another anti-Poll Tax bill, HR 7, passed the House in May of this year by a vote of 265 to 110, and it is now in the senate judiciary committee and will be reported to the senate

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this fall.

It is true that not only colored, but white people as well are sometimes disenfranchised because of Poll Taxes, but the measure is aimed to hold the Negro down to the lowest rung and his way of life is hampered. All too frequently we criticize the colored race because of the conditions under which they live. Those conditions are largely brought about by white domination in many of the southern states We will take for instance, a colored and a white man, each facing the same conditions as to property. What is the outcome? The colored individual is threatened and remains in seclusion while the white man with no more right to vote than his colored neighbor, gains the use of the ballot.

Intimidation is practiced the year around. In some instances those who would manipulate and control elections have gone so far as to threaten with weapons.

We have a sympathetic feeling for the colored race that has been held in bondage even though slavery was abolished with the close of the Civil war. We have that sympathy because we know the colored boys and girls in some backwoods localities, are denied the opportunities to acquire education. And then on top of this, the state or the municipality that holds back education exacts tests that cannot be met.

We hope to see a measure abolishing the Poll Tax written into the federal statues to the end that there will never be a question raised as to the opportunities afforded under the Constitution. If all men are created equal, if the Bill of Rights means anything, it protects races and creeds. There is no such protection where a Poll Tax plan prevails and is administered by those who would deny the right of suffrage.

Senate Dilly-Dallies Over Poll Tax Bill

Defender
Chicago, Ill

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

OCT 30 1943

WASHINGTON.—A campaign of delaying tactics is holding up the anti-poll tax bill in the Judiciary committee of the Senate. Opponents of the bill are playing for time—and every delay is in their favor.

This week, on Monday, the committee listened to a battery of lawyers argue the constitutionality of the measure. The arguments were useless. Everyone on the committee and in the Senate already knows how he is going to vote. Each one has already decided on the constitutionality of the bill. That point was fully covered in all the previous hearings on the bill in other sessions of Congress and in hearings and debate in the House. But such arguments offer further delay in consideration of the bill on the floor of the Senate—and lessens the possibility of the measure coming to a vote.

No vote was taken on the measure after the hearing. In fact, the hearing itself was almost postponed—as a further delaying tactic—when Senator Tom Connally (D) of Texas sought to have it put off on the plea that he would not be able to be present because of another commitment. Sen. Van Nuys insisted on the hearing being held as scheduled, however.

Urge Action Immediately

An attempt to get the committee to agree to a vote on Next Monday was defeated in the committee. The attempt to pin the committee down to a definite date for voting was made by Sen. Langer (R) of North Dakota. Only two senators supported the motion.

With talk of an adjournment or recess for the congress about November 15 in the air, every day of delay in committee action endangers any action on the bill.

Unless a flood of letters and postcards and telegrams are sent to the committee members and to members of the senate, the dilatory tactics will continue. Here are the members of the Judiciary Committee:

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Van Nuys of Indiana (chairman), McCarran of Nevada, Hatch of New Mexico, Connally of Texas, O'Mahoney of Wyoming, Chandler of Kentucky, Kilgore of West Virginia, Murdock of Utah, McFarland of Arizona, Wheeler of Montana, and Andrews of Florida—all Democrats.

Austin of Vermont, Danaher of Connecticut, Wiley of Wisconsin, Langer of North Dakota, Ferguson of Michigan, Revercomb of West Virginia, and Wherry of Nebraska—Republicans.

These senators should be urged to report immediately on the bill to the senate. The members of the senate should be deluged with your demands that they demand continuous sessions (including night sessions) to break the inevitable filibuster; to vote for cloture after reasonable debate on the bill; and to vote for the bill.

Georgia White Prof. Assails Tax On Voting

Defender Chicago, Ill

ATLANTA.—(ANP)—Poll taxes have tended to make the southern states which require them "rotten boroughs" in the English sense of the term, Prof. Glenn W. Rainey of the Georgia School of Technology believes.

In an address delivered before the Georgia Electoral Reform League, Rainey said that in Georgia the number of voters is "only a fraction" of the number of voters in states not requiring a poll tax as a prerequisite to the ballot.

He said that in England before parliamentary reforms were made, many house of commons seats were "literally the property of wealthy men who controlled certain districts with a mere scattering of votes in them." These were the "rotten boroughs."

"In the case of the South—and notably of Georgia—the percentage of voting is so low that elections can easily be carried by rings or machines, controlling a disproportionately large part of the vote through office-holders and through money supplied by selfish interests," he asserted.

Rainey, associate professor of English at Georgia Tech., declared that if the money "came only from southern sources it would be dangerous enough."

NOV 20 1943

House Group Votes To Outlaw Poll Tax

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The minority, which contended that Senate Judiciary Committee, recommending passage of a House-approved bill to outlaw the pay-rather than by legislation. Most ment of a poll tax as a requirement for voting, today charged majority reports stated that they that most poll taxes were written not only to prevent the Negro and poor white from casting a white from casting a ballot.

The committee's report charged "they are unable to pay the poll that a poll tax was illegal and unconstitutional. The report was accompanied by the views of the

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

Obeying the People's Demand

On November 12th, in the Judiciary Committee of the United States Senate, a long stride was taken toward the democracy for which we are fighting. On that day, by a vote of 12 to 6, the Committee reported out favorably HR 7, the anti-poll tax bill. So strong was popular feeling on the bill that a special meeting had been called for its consideration and every member of the Committee voted on it.

On November 15th, a second victory was won, when the Committee voted down 9 to 8 a proposal that would have not only killed the bill but made further action on it impossible for many years to come. This proposal, a constitutional amendment to abolish the poll tax, was introduced by Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming and has the endorsement of Senator Connally of Texas and Senator Bilbo of Mississippi. These men have publicly stated their opposition to any national legislation to abolish the poll tax (which keeps them in office at the will of a fraction of the potential voters in their state). Their support in itself, therefore, discloses the real effect of the proposed amendment which would side-track Senate consideration of HR 7 and split the unified support now behind it.

Senator Van Nuys and the the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee are to be congratulated on their action. It is a tribute to their farsightedness and to their courage.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

But the real credit for victory goes to the American people, to the men and women in every state in the nation who worked hard to bring it about. The credit goes alike to Southern share-croppers and factory workers, to members of the trade unions, C.I.O., A.F. of L. and Railroad Brotherhoods together, to church groups, women's clubs, Negro, youth and civic organizations, clear-sighted individuals everywhere. They have given heartening proof that the articulate will of the American people can become an irresistible force in the halls of Congress.

For five years all these groups have joined in an organized campaign to wipe out the unfair poll tax system by which ten million Americans in eight Southern states, 6½ million whites and 3½ million Negroes, are kept from exercising the fundamental democratic right of the franchise. They have passed resolutions, told their neighbors what was at stake, and have repeatedly written and wired their Senators that they would countenance no delay. And through the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, which they have supported with their contributions, they have worked together as a coordinated body for the passage of HR 7.

For four years the will of the people has been flounted. Last year, an anti-poll tax bill reached the Senate, then became the victim of a "Gentlemen's Agreement" which terminated the filibuster staged by the poll tax Senators. Now again this session the bill, which passed the House of Representatives by a majority of 265 to 110 on May 25th, is on the Senate Calendar. It can now be called up on the floor of the Senate at any time—and it will again be attacked by the deadly filibuster with which its opponents again boastfully threaten to destroy it.

The poll tax Senators are determined in their undying opposition to HR 7. They stand strongly united. They have at their command all the delaying and confusing tactics by which a small minority can undermine a cause. They have served notice that they will filibuster. Senator O'Mahoney will introduce again on the floor of the Senate his disruptive proposal for a constitutional amendment. But no bargains behind closed doors, no secret "Gentlemen's Agreements" can stand in the way of the American people when they are on the march.

The next job of the American people is clear. The O'Mahoney amendment can and must be voted down. The filibuster can and must be broken. The means to do this exist: after reasonable debate, a two-third majority of the Senate can invoke cloture, which limits debate thereafter to one hour for each Senator.

All friends of the anti-poll tax bill must speak out now, emphatically, unafraid. They must make clear that to filibuster in war time is to bring to a standstill the democratic processes of our government.

Anti-poll tax legislation has never before come to a vote in the Senate. Opponents of the bill know as well as we that once it does, its overwhelming passage is assured. We ask only that the elected representatives of the people, The Senate of the United States, be given the right to vote on HR 7.

Here is a duty and a privilege. Write to both your Senators requesting them to vote for cloture to limit debate, to vote against all amendments and substitute proposals, and to vote for HR 7. Write to Senator Van Nuys. Congratulate him on his leadership. Urge him to carry on the fight and assure him of your support.

Only so can we make real the idea that the vote must be free.

Republicans Join With Dixieites On Poll Tax Issue

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Southern senators led by Tom Connally, of Texas, are planning a filibuster against the anti-poll tax bill, and are being aided and abetted in their plans by Republicans.

According to Senator Theodore Bilbo, of Mississippi, several hundred amendments will be proposed, and each will be discussed "at length."

The strategy of the Republicans will be to support a substitute bill offered by Senator Joseph O'Mahoney, of Wyoming, which would provide for an amendment to the Constitution. To amend the Constitution three-fourths of the States must ratify the amendment before it becomes operative.

That this would be the strategy of the Republicans was revealed last week by Senator William Langer, Republican of North Dakota, who made a motion to reconsider the O'Mahoney proposition, after the Judiciary Committee had previously defeated it.

When the Constitutional proposal was reconsidered, the Republicans joined with the Southern Democrats in supporting it, and the proposition was lost by the narrow margin of 9 to 8.

Republican Senators seem determined to prohibit any legislation being pressed by Negroes from being enacted under a Democratic administration. They fear that it will give ammunition to the Democrats in the 1944 elections.

This strategy killed the anti-poll tax bill last year, and it likewise killed the anti-lynching bill when Senators of the Republican faith professed to favor the bill but voted against limiting debate of the Southern Senators, which would have brought the bill to the floor for a vote.

The anti-poll tax bill is now on the calendar of the Senate, and under the rules may be called up at any time by any Senator. Unless two-thirds of the Senators will pledge themselves to vote for cloture the bill seems defeated now, because without a limit of debate, the Southerners are sufficiently strong to filibuster the bill to death.

Pepper Fails To Introduce Measure Again

Kansas City, Mo.

WASHINGTON. — "Sober understanding" of the many obstacles to poll tax repeal is needed to secure passage of H.R.7, now in the Senate Judiciary committee, Morris Milgram, Workers Defense League secretary, declared this week.

After listing the major obstacles, which he said included Senator Claude Pepper's failure to reintroduce his repeal bill, the WDL official called on all believers in democracy to redouble their efforts to secure passage of H.R.7, and to write to their Senators insisting that "they vote for cloture to prevent a repetition of last year's filibuster against the bill."

Three Obstacles Named

Obstacles listed by Mr. Milgram include:

1. An increase in opposition to the poll tax repeal bill in Congress, as evidenced by the 31 per cent increase over last year in anti-repeal votes when the measure was adopted in the House May 25 by 265 to 110, as compared to a 4 per cent increase in votes for repeal. Last year the bill passed the House by 254 to 84.

2. Failure of Senator Claude Pepper of Florida to reintroduce the bill in the Senate. It is reported that Senator Pepper declined to reintroduce his bill unless the President agreed that he should.

3. The resounding victory of the Southerners' filibuster last fall will make many Senators unwilling to attempt a fight to the finish against their powerful bloc. Last year, a combination of Southern Democrats and Northern Republicans easily defeated by a 41 to 37 vote the attempt to impose a cloture rule. Cloture, which is limitation of each Senator's speech to 1 hour, requires a two-thirds vote.

The one bright spot in the picture, Mr. Milgram declared, is the fact that this session of Congress doesn't end for 15 months, which makes it easier to fight a filibuster than it was last year . . . provided the people let their Senators know they want them to make a hard fight."

Letters To Senators Are Urgent

Kansas City Call

Must Not Delay Poll Tax Action

Kansas City Call

Senate action on the anti-poll tax bill has been postponed until after the holidays. Action on this bill has been delayed by the senate time and time again during the 32 weeks which have gone by since the upper house received the measure passed last year by the House of Representati[ves]

DEC 17 1943

The senators who say they favor the bill are playing into the hands of the filibusterers by continuing to delay action. All the southern senators who oppose the bill want is time. The longer consideration of the bill is put off, the closer it will be to adjournment time. When they get within sight of adjournment, the southerners count on talking the bill to death. They fear criticism of "holding up the war effort" if the filibuster on the anti-poll tax bill comes too early in the session. It is therefore to the advantage of friends of the bill to bring the question to the floor for debate as early as possible. The sooner the bill comes up, the more chance there is for a two-thirds vote for "cloture," the only possible means to halt a filibuster.

DEC 17 1943

Those "friendly" senators who consented to postponing the bill until after New Year's are doing as much harm as the filibusterers. Their reason for delay is that they don't yet have the strength to get "cloture" passed. This is a lame excuse. Those who are pushing the bill believe that the necessary two-thirds vote can be obtained to invoke the cloture rule.

The only way to get action from the senate is for the voters back home to forcefully impress upon their senators that the anti-poll tax bill (H. R. 7) must be considered NOW. The anti-poll tax bill can pass if it is brought to a vote. Otherwise, the senators from the poll-tax states would not work so hard to keep from having it voted upon. Their only hope is for delay.

Citizens everywhere must write their senators to insist that the anti-poll tax bill be considered at once, to vote for cloture and to vote for H. R. 7. Fortunately, the two senators from Missouri are supporters of the anti-poll tax bill, but it would not hurt Missourians to write them a letter urging them to continue their support until the poll tax laws of the South are wiped out forever.

Kansas City, Mo.

An Excuse Is Weakened

Kansas City Call Mo.

Ever since the anti-poll tax bill became an issue in congress, a group of representatives and senators who said they were in accord with its objective have voted against it on the grounds that it is unconstitutional.

OCT 1 - 1943

The argument of the gentlemen, including Congressmen C. Jasper Bell and Roger Slaughter of Missouri, is that the poll taxes in effect in several of the southern states cannot be removed by legislation but by constitutional amendment alone.

OCT - 1943

This argument is a screen behind which have been hiding those who really oppose the anti-poll tax bill but who do not want to lose the support of Negroes in states where there is no such limitation on voting.

The question was brought again to public attention this week with the release of a memorandum signed by 10 outstanding constitutional lawyers who contend that the anti-poll tax bill is constitutional.

These lawyers, some from the South, say that the bill as presented to congress is quite in keeping with the constitution. They quoted an opinion of a supreme court justice who in ruling on the exclusion by states of indigent citizens said:

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> "We should say now, and in no uncertain terms, that a man's mere property status, without more, cannot be used by a state to test, qualify or limit his rights as a citizen of the United States . . . The mere state of being without funds is a neutral fact—constitutionally an irrelevancy like race, creed or color."

The poll tax limits the rights of a citizen when it prevents him from casting his vote without first paying a tax, the amount of which varies according to the state. Negroes are not the only citizens affected by this tax. Millions of poor white sharecroppers also are victims of this vicious system. It is estimated by the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax that 10 million persons in the South will be able to vote when the poll tax is abolished. This number of voters could end the careers of senators like Bilbo of Mississippi, who are returned to congress year after year by the small group of voters they keep under their thumbs back home. It is through the poll tax system that southern congressmen and senators gain control of the important committees in the house and senate and in these responsible posts they kill legislation beneficial to Negroes.

The poll tax system must be defeated. Citizens everywhere must demand that their congressmen support the anti-poll tax bill. They must not be permitted to hide under the excuse that the bill is unconstitutional.

OCT - 1943

Missouri congressmen who have been using that excuse must be flooded with telegrams and letters from Missouri voters insisting that they vote for the anti-poll tax bill. The bill will be up for consideration in congress soon and it must not be defeated by a "lame excuse."

White Dixie Pastor Raps Senators Fighting Poll Tax; Calls Them Boneheads

The Plaindealer

NOV 26 1943

Kansas City, Kan.

Atlanta, Nov. 26 (ANP) — That not all white Southerners hold the narrow view held by the 16 Dixie senators who have formed a bloc to defeat the anti-poll tax bill, was seen Wednesday in a letter to the Atlanta Journal from the Rev. Witherspoon Dodge, prominent white clergyman here.

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The letter said: "In view of Mississippi Sen. Bilbo's statement that if the anti-poll tax measure reaches the Senate floor for debate, there will be a free and unlimited coinage of words for the purpose of preventing Democratic victory by irrelevant verbosity, the people of the nation would seem to be quite in order in coining a few words of their own.

"One wonders whether the 16 southern Senators who have stucq out their long-bearded political chins against this Democratic measure are aware of their suicidal strategy with such ossified opposition. By sticking out the most prominent point of their cephalic structure, instead of using their internal sagacity, the political reverberations among the people may well furnish indisputable proof that they have earned a life-time membership in the Bone Head club.

"With this present turning of the tide of progressive democracy backward, now swarming with Republicans, abnormal Republocrats of the south, u[pper]-crust reactionaries, and m[ore] class members of upper-crust opinions, there is an extreme likelihood that only the vote of the unprivileged people—now prevented from voting by the poll tax—can keep the south solid for democracy. Thus the southern Senators would seem to be doing their darndest to push the politicians who kept them disfranchised as long as they could? The "fully as suicidal is the southern Senator's strategy for their own future. Of course, the poll tax, like all undemocratic anachronisms, will sooner or later be dumped on the political junk pile in the south as has already happened in this old jalopy stage coach in all states outside the south. For whom will the majority of southern citizens then vote? For the poli-

NOV 27 1943

TIME TO ACT!

As majority leader, however, to one hour's talk, Senator Barkley has the power

New York, N. Y.

People's Voice

NOV 27 1943

Poll Taxers Itch to Fite

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

Poll Tax Repeal Before Congress Again

Journal and Guide

WITH the return to active deliberations by Congress, the question of legislation to remove the ills of the poll tax system will soon be before the solons on Capitol Hill. An announcement by Representative George C. Bender (R.-Ohio), chairman of the steering committee of the House, discloses that H. R. 7, a bill to abolish the poll tax as a prerequisite for voting in federal elections, will shortly be reported by the Senate's judiciary committee to the floor of the Senate.

Rep. Bender says that "Senator Bilbo of Mississippi has promised to conduct a filibuster for eighteen months, if necessary, in order to defeat this legislation. For my own part, I believe that a filibuster in war time is treasonable."

In that conclusion, all fair-minded Americans will join. It is true, as Rep. Bender points out, that "a filibuster represents the expression of a small minority to deliberately prevent the Senate from acting on any measure until the majority of the Senate agrees to drop the legislation to which the minority objects."

Norfolk. Virginia

Democratic government as we have in this nation is predicated upon the greatest good for the greatest number, through legislation adopted by the majority of the citizens' representatives in legislative halls. For a minority of objectors to prevent the execution of the will of the majority, by trickery and filibuster, is a negation of democracy.

The faults of the poll tax have been too well exposed to require elaboration now. Suffice it to say, in the words of Rep. Bender, that "the repeal of the poll tax has become a symbol of our faith in democracy, a sign of the integrity of our war effort." The blight of the poll tax crosses class and racial lines, and it is in the interest of all citizens, irrespective of origins, to support the poll tax repeal movement. Write the congressmen from your district and the senators from your state and let them know how you feel on the matter.

FREEDOM BEGINS AT HOME

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Will the anti-poll tax bill be defeated in the Senate by default?

So it would seem from the unashamed speed with which solons have shied away from the measure since its approval by the Senate Judiciary Committee. While the Dixie poll tax bloc chortles with glee, not a single U. S. Senator of these so-called United States has had the stamina and courage to defy the undemocratic Bilbos and Connallys and call the anti-poll tax measure onto the floor.

Where are the august gentlemen who speak so solemnly of freedom and self-determination for the Poles, the Germans, the Italians, the Czechs but quiver and shake in their shoes when it comes time to win freedom for ten million men and women, black and white, deprived on the sacred right of suffrage here in America.

All it takes is one, lone senator to call the Marcantonio measure onto the floor. But the New Deal and Majority Leader Alben Barkley have seen fit to remain silent in the face of bulldozing brazen tactics of the Dixie bloc. Republican reactionaries, who would speak vulgarly in the name of the great Lincoln, intone stolidly about protecting the Constitution, using that great document as a pretext to keep freemen from voting.

Wake up, gentlemen! This is the year 1943 when millions of men are fighting, bleeding and dying in a war for democracy. Shall America become the laughing stock of the world, a land where not a single solitary man selected to the people's forum will lift a single finger to allow ten million men and women the right to vote?

Wake up, gentlemen! The war for democracy is here, now, right in our backyard. Freedom begins at home.

Democracy cannot be lost by default!

DEFEAT THE CONFEDERACY!

Defender Chicago. Ill

After long delay and purposeful stalling, the Senate Judiciary Committee has seen fit finally to bring the anti-poll tax bill to the floor of the Senate for a vote.

But even at this eleventh hour for democracy, it is still a question whether the measure which seeks to allow ten million disfranchised Southerners the right to a ballot will ever come up for the vote.

The Confederacy, defeated in bloody battle some eighty years ago, still is riding roughshod over the people's will. Just as the poll tax distorts democracy in Dixie so has the South's parliamentary jitterbugging in the Senate stymied democracy in the Senate.

Brazenly senators from eight poll tax states organized another secession last week. Meeting in secret, they schemed and plotted how they will prevent majority rule from being the order of our republic. In 1860 their weapon was the Confederate army. Today it is the filibuster.

The anti-poll tax bill is again a test of our Union, of our democracy. There can be no middle road, no feigned talk about constitutionality. The question simply is: Can our democratic Union survive with ten million black and white citizens having no more suffrage rights than the persecuted masses of Germany, or Czechoslovakia, or Poland.

It is time for America to again assert its democratic traditions, to stamp out ruthlessly this shameless attempt to thwart the democratic will.

We must fight fire with fire. There is only one way to beat the filibuster. It is cloture—shutting off debate, or in this case the filibuster, through a two-third vote. This is the democratic way, the American way.

Every Negro in America has a duty, a priceless heritage to honor in the coming week. From every home, from every corner of the nation must come a flood of demands for a true test on this anti-poll tax bill.

Demand the right to the vote for the Senate on this bill. Demand the right to vote for our people. Write today to your Senator asking that cloture be invoked on the anti-poll tax bill so that democracy may again prevail over the Confederacy.

POLL TAX SYSTEM MUST END

Defender Chicago. Ill

House Rule 7 (H.R. 7), the Vito Marcantonio Anti-Poll Tax bill, which passed the House of Representatives before the recent recess, will come before the Senate in a very short period.

The passage of this democratic piece of legislation, which flows logically out of the Atlantic Charter and out of every progressive concept we have of the nature of this war, is essential to victory. If the Anti-Poll Tax bill is beaten the prestige of our country before the democratic countries organized together as the United Nations will be immeasurably lowered. In the Far East and among the colonial peoples the defeat of this measure will be regarded as a blow against men of color. In Europe among the peoples of the occupied countries it will be regarded as a blow against their realization of the Four Freedoms. Yet there is talk of a filibuster of this bill on the part of the men who come from the poll-tax states. That filibuster has to be beaten back. The men who are preparing it are enemies of the nation. Is this not yet clear?

We cannot call them representatives of the peoples of those southern states. They represent neither the poor whites nor the poor blacks. They represent only that small clique which from the days of the Reconstruction and through misrule and robbery have made of the South the economic problem No. 1 of our country. They represent the social forces who have wasted the water power of the South, ruthlessly exhausted the fertility of its soil, denied education to the great majority of the people, and made literacy a thing to mock. These are the men who have given to the South by their political misrule and economic exploitation the highest rate of prostitution in the country. Child labor has been for them a means of withholding decent wages from the men and women of that section of our land. These men would even bring about the defeat of our country before they would peaceably permit democracy to embrace the Negroes and poor whites. These men must be beaten. The poll-tax system must end. The voice of the white and Negro men and women sharecroppers and peons in our great democracy must be heard calling for a realization here at home of all that for which the war is being fought.

H.R. 7 challenges America. We must meet that challenge. If we do not, we take a long step toward the losing of the peace.

No—Not Later—NOW, Senators!

Bee Chicago, Ill.

SENATOR Mead of New York and Van Nuys of Indiana, proponents for the anti-poll tax bill, are fearful that an attempt to invoke cloture, that is, to limit debate and prevent a filibuster will not work now. These valiant senators who have been playing into the hands of, the minority be dispensed with. At first this would seem wise and certainly to force this tainly from past experience, Senators Mead until 1944, and Van Nuys would seem justified in awaiting a more favorable moment to bring poll tax measure by filibuster, to fo bill now. They prefer waiting unt

the anti-poll tax measure to senate vote with cloture invoked.

However we have learned from past experience, also, that every time this bill is put off for later consideration the more integrated the operations of the opposition become and one the contrary the more scattered, those who favor the measure.

Who knows in a global conflict that 1944 will not bring up incalculably many more viciously controversial issues and that the anti-poll tax bill will not be consigned to a similar fate as that of the "soldier vote" bill?

In our opinion nothing so fundamental to democratic rights is as symbolic as the anti-poll tax. The world is watching us to see if we now give a clue to post-war temporizing and procrastination in the matter of extending democratic justice to disenfranchised citizens. We are therefore impelled to act.

It will not be any easier in 1944 to invoke cloture than now. So, Senators, let us get on with the fight. Remember if you try and fail, the burden for the failure of democracy will not rest with you but with your inglorious detractors.

The Poll-Taxers Face A Second Front.

Courier-Journal

The poll tax defenders find themselves beset by a second front. While forebodings gather for the Senate's "states' rights" version of the service men's vote bill, which rejected among other things the waiver of poll tax and registration, the poll-taxers are challenged anew by revival of the familiar legislation to outlaw the poll tax as a prerequisite for voting for Federal officers.

Louisville, Ky.

The situation appears such that they will need two sets of strategy and tactical operation instead of one, because the sanctified larynx of The Man BILBO and the time-tested filibuster maneuver obviously are not going to do for both defensive stands.

It had begun to appear that an alternative strategy had been hit upon in the fight against the GREEN-LUCAS bill permitting men and women in uniform to vote in 1944. This alternative was the "Stop ROOSEVELT" cry. It was the suspicion that any idea presented these days is geared somehow to fourth-term machinations. As far as Congress is concerned, it begins to look as if all that is necessary to sabotage a thought is to suggest that it has to do with inordinate political ambitions of the White House occupant or occupants. And so the service men's vote bill was transformed into a sort of shell, holding only a recommendation to the states that they pass "appropriate legislation."

However, whether this is going to suffice unto final enactment begins to look like a big question. There is a gathering hue and cry in behalf of effective legislation making possible our fighting men's use of their legal and democratic rights; and a growing recognition that this end cannot be reached without the device of federal machinery. Certainly no state legislature knows even where the bulk of its fighting constituents are, to send them absentee ballots. And Senator LUCAS' announcement that a compromise bill will be offered, trying to resolve most of the disputed points of his original measure, and including the poll tax waiver, suggests that there will be more doing on this front.

Then comes the other assault, the revived fight on the poll tax as a poll tax. On this front the strategy is tried and true. Already there are premonitory rumblings of intermediate debate, with the gentlemen of the eight poll-tax states resolved to talk it out if it takes all the session, or all next year, or all the time in which the business of winning a war and building a new world presses and remains perforce undone. It has begun, in the opposition of majority and minority reports of the Senate Judiciary Committee on approval of the anti-poll tax bill.

Voting is not a right but a privilege. The proposed law is an unconstitutional invasion of the right of a state to decide who of its citizens may vote, and under what conditions.

What's this? Why, the voice of Senator CONNALLY, in whose state of Texas the poll tax is sacred and potent. The issue is joined, and we may expect to see what we are pretty certain we shall see—once more the perversion of democratic processes in a minority's striving to impose its will upon a majority, denying the essential integrity of millions who are disfranchised by poverty and custom.

LEGAL
Argus
St. Louis, Missouri
HINTS
by Sidney R. REDMOND

Anti-Poll Tax Bill

The requirement by eight southern states that persons pay a poll tax before being eligible to vote is one of the means used to prevent Negroes and poor whites from using the ballot. Often the tax is only $1.00 per year and is used for school purposes.

The rate of $1.00 per year does not seem high, but when you realize that it is cumulative and for some people amounts to $20.00 or more before they can vote, you see how effective it is. The tax becomes due when the person becomes 21. If he lives in the state 10 years without attempting to vote after he becomes of age and then goes to vote he will be given a bill for his poll tax for all ten of the years he did not pay it. Unless he pays in full he is not eligible to vote.

The bill in Congress to abolish the poll tax in federal elections is a step in the right direction. It brings us closer to a democracy. Write and urge your senators to vote for it and to vote for cloture for, if cloture is not invoked, it is likely that a filibuster by southern senators will prevent the matter from coming to a vote.

The enactment of this law will not be a panacea for the attitudes

Harvard Prof. Hits Poll Tax Delay

Chicago Defender

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—"Senators who take refuge in constitutional grounds for opposing passage of the anti-poll tax bill 'are doing a disservice to the cause of democracy,'" warned Prof. E. Merrick Dodd, of Harvard law school, Saturday at a meeting of the senate judiciary committee.

The senate group, headed by Sen. Frederick Van Nuys (D., Ind.), of the "democratic principle that no American citizen ought to be disfranchised because of property."

Dixie Senate Bloc Holds Secret Meeting To Kill Bill

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

By VITO MARCANTONIO, M. C., Author of the Bill

WASHINGTON, D. C.—My anti-poll tax bill has been reported out of the Senate Judiciary committee. It now goes to the Senate. If passed it would give 10,000,000 voteless Americans a stake in democracy. If passed it would remove the hindrances from these Americans which prevent them from full and free participation in our war effort.

Anti-poll tax legislation has twice passed the House of Representatives. The issue has been before the people for six years. It has been the subject of months of hearings, of months of delay. It has been endorsed by the overwhelming mass of the American people: by the American Federation of Labor, the Congress of Industrial Organizations, the Railroad Brotherhoods, numerous church, civic, Negro, women's and youth organizations from all over the country, and particularly from the Southern states, where the poll poll tax laws exist.

SENATORS MET IN SECRECY

Yet a few days ago a cabal of 16 senators from poll tax states met in secrecy to plot a filibuster to talk the bill to death.

This is a grave moment in the life of our nation. It is a time when there must be no speaking. The plot of this cabal of poll taxers is one which threatens the survival of America.

What does a filibuster mean? It means that for days the business of the Senate of the United States will be halted by a minority, while that minority spews out to the world slanderous lies against the Negro people, against labor, against religious creeds. For days—by dilatory quorum calls, points of order and endless debate—the small group of senators will be allowed to hold up vital war legislation. For days this group will be able to "make a record" of race hate on the floor of the Senate which will each night be repeated to tens of millions of peoples of darker races in Asia, Africa and India by Axis short wave radio broadcasts. For days—this group will be permitted to thwart the will of the majority of the Senate that this bill be enacted into the law of the land.

POLL TAX GANG

A filibuster is treason. A filibuster is the weapon of fascism. Anyone who resorts to the filibuster is a domestic fascist.

Who are these pigmies who threaten the security of America—who endanger the national unity of our nation in time of war? They are: Tom Connally, author of the labor-baiting Smith-Connally bill; Bilbo; "Pappy" O'Daniels, a Texas mountebank; tobacco-chewing "Cotton Ed" Smith of South Carolina—and the rest of the poll-tax gang; anti-Negro, anti-labor, anti-everything democratic and decent.

But let us understand with equal certainty: that every senator, however much he may give lip service to the cause of democracy, who aids in the delay in bringing anti-poll tax legislation to the floor of the Senate shares equal guilt with this poll tax gang.

Democratic Senator Alben Barkley is leader of the Majority Party in the Senate. He has power to call up the anti-poll tax bill today. He has power to start from the first day of the filibuster holding the Senate in session 16 hours a day: making the filibusters talk until their tongues hang dry. Senator Barkley has power to insist that this bill stay on the floor of the Senate from now until December 31, 1944, without interruption.

Republican Senator Charles McNary is leader of the Minority Party. He and a majority of his Republican colleagues have said again and again they are on record for the passage of anti-poll tax legislation. He and his colleagues know that if they will join with liberal Democrats in voting for cloture the anti-poll tax bill can be passed in the Senate in three days.

The Poll Tax bill can be passed. One million letters from the people now will make the Senate understand the will of the people. Write your two senators today. Tell them to:

1. **Call up the Marcantonio Anti-Poll Tax Bill.**
2. **Keep the anti-poll tax bill on the floor of the Senate until it is passed.**
3. **Make no deals with the filibusters; make them talk 16 hours a day.**
4. **Kill the filibuster against the anti-poll tax bill.**

Backers Still Duck Anti-Poll Tax Bill

New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—Backers of the bill to repeal the poll tax as a prerequisite to voting for Federal officials are trying to duck responsibility for bringing the bill up in the Senate.

The measure was approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee last week, but Chairman Frederick Van Nuys (D., Ind.), who handles legislation coming from his Committee, is reluctant to sponsor the bill on the floor and lead the fight for its enactment.

Sen. James Mead (D., N. Y.) is the Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Van Nuys erred on yesterday defeated a resolution reported in Committee Friday in favor poll taxes. Van Nuys corrected reporting that Sen. Wil- the record today to show that Lanreported to have declined to move sponsored by Sen. Joseph O'Maho- liam Langer (R., N.D.) voted in the consideration of the bill, which ney (D., Wyo.) to repeal the poll- ger voted consistently against the he thinks should be the job of the tax by the cumbersome process of Judiciary Committee to substi- Committee chairman. Meanwhile, a constitutional amendment. tute O'Mahoney proposal and not with the enemies of repeal. resolution for the outright poll tax repeal. This measure was supported by those who favor a constitutional amendment.

Correction

52e-1943

POLL TAX

A MESS OF POTTAGE

Argus

A few days ago, Edgar Brown, and now, Perry Howard, has given utterance to words condemning the efforts of the administration in Washington to ba[illegible] the infamous poll-tax laws of the Southern states fro[illegible] requirements of voting in those states in election from the requirements of to be chosen. Brown, whose "beef" is due to his having been fired out of a job by the New Deal, appeared before a committee of Congress a few days ago and accused the President and his party of trying to buy Negro votes by passing a law abolishing the poll tax requirements. He spoke in opposition to the bill which would permit his black brothers [illegible]over the South to force their right to vote without having this barrier of paying many years of delinquent poll taxes to overcome. He hopes to be rewarded with a job by the Republicans, if they get control of the government. St. Louis. Missouri

Perry Howard, Republican Committeeman of the State of Mississippi, but who has spent ninety per cent of his time in Washington, D. C. during the last twenty years, has written a letter opposing the passage of the anti-poll tax bill, and what is worse, he made it possible for that letter to get into the hands of Senatpr Bilbo of Mississippi who placed it in the Congressional Record, and argued that Negroes were opposed to the bill which would enfranchise their own kind stems from the selfish motives of these two men to "feather their own nests" at the expense of the advancement of their people. Although the President has been al[illegible] force the South to go much farther in according better treatment to Negroes, its reactionary die-hards hate him. The number one complaint of these southerners against the President is his liberal attitude toward Negroes. Now come Brown and Perry Howard and join hands with Bilbo of Mississippi to keep the Negro hog-tied with the Poll-tax Law, lest the colored people, out of gratitude, should support the president in the election next year. In other words, Messrs. Brown and Howard say, "We will not let the president do anything beneficial for Negroes because that will make them want to vote for him next year; and, if the colored people vote for Mr. Roosevelt, he will beat the Republicans in 1944, and that will leave us without a job."

The Memphis Commercial Appeal praises Perry Howard's action in an article more than a column in length. Bilbo of Mississippi has put the stamp of approval on him; and Brown is being congratulated and quoted by these same enemies of the race. That ought to be enough to make colored people everywhere spew these Judases out of their mouths.

SENATOR BILBO AND THE POLL TAX

Judging from present maneuverings in the United States Senate, it looks as if the members of that body are up to the same old tricks in their efforts to defeat the will of the people regarding the an[illegible] tax bill. Argus

Already there are signs of coalition, yes, and conspiracies to defeat the will of the people through filibuster by certain designated men, while others stand by giving their consent through inaction. In other words, Senator Theodore G. Bilbo of Mississippi is to be the usual "goat" through his filibuster on the Senate floor. St. Louis, Missouri

Such tactics have now become the political tricks of the past and the people, in fact, the masses are wise to these tricks and we have many reasons to believe that the constituency of those Senators in the voting states will resent playing with the rights of the people as has been done in the past by these faithless servants.

Everybody knows that Senator Bilbo has only one vote when it comes to voting on any measures either in the Senate or in a committee on which he may perchance to be. There are ninety-six Senators and under the present Senate rules, two-thirds of that number, or sixty-six Senators can limit a debate and break a filibuster any time they deem it fitting to do so. Thus, we repeat it is very clear to all of us that all too many Bilbos are in a conspiracy to unlawfully deprive ten million citizens, both white and colored, of the right to vote in the southern states.

Assuming that the S[illegible]ors from the eight poll tax states voted against cloture, there would still be eighty potential votes for cloture.

Happily both of Missouri's Senators have said that they will vote for cloture. We understand that Senator Clark has said that he favored cloture because it would take the cloak off the sins of those who would hide behind the filibuster to keep from voting on the issue. We think that the senior senator from the show you state has the right angle on the situation. So our comment further on this matter is vote for cloture and unmask those unfaithful servants of the people and expose their hyprocrisy to the world.

A NATIONAL DISGRACE

Argus

As the fight for the abolition of the poll tax as a prerequisite to voting in eight southern states grows hotter, the more light is thrown on the corrupt [illegible] in which this government is being operated. St. Louis, Mo.

We are not pretending to believe that the members of congress, including both the House and the Senate, didn't know that every Senator and every Representative in congress from the poll tax states hold their seats in the highest lawmaking body of the land through corrupt practice and fraud upon the people, not only in their own states, but the people of the United States.

When such men are allowed a seat in congress, every principle of law regulating election of national officers are violated.

It is bad enough for one through fraud and dishonest manipulations to get a seat in congress, but there is something "rotten in Denmark," when the others know it is common knowledge that such practices are carried on and no one who is a member of that body will rise and protest this sort of thing as corrupt and against the will of the people.

When only one per cent of the voters in a given district in South Carolina can elect a representative and it takes thirty-eight per cent of the voters in an Indiana district to elect a representative in that state, then we say everybody knows that there is something rotten in congress.

The Negro, Bilbo And The Poll Tax

Weekly Review — Birmingham, Ala.

BY THE EDITOR

It is estimated that in the last presidential election, only 18 per cent of the people in this state voted for the man who leads us all through these trying times.

Very few Negroes in the deep South voted at all, but they all pay all sorts of tax. In fact, they pay more tax when you figure it out rightly than any other group in the South. You will find reason for this statement when you take into consideration what they get back out of the taxes they pay as compared to what others get.

Let's go back into any Negro community across the railroad tracks. There you may find a hundred shanties in which thousands of perfectly miserable Negroes live. Although most of them may be so blind they cannot see it, any "smart Alec" will tell you that they do not pay the tax on the shanties in which they live. You may, [illegible] off the price of the lumber out of which they were built, the street improvement if any, are in the rent paid. The loaf of bread those folk bought at the corner store this morning had about fifty-two h[illegible]den taxes tied onto it. This same applies to everything they eat or wear. It applies to the coal they burn, which because of the type of house they are forced to live in— because of their low income and discrimination in employment and advancement opportunities, costs them around thirty-two dollars per ton to keep half-way as warm as the persons who are able to make enough to build decent homes. Yes, the poor pay a damn sight more taxes, more for clothes, fuel, shoes, medicine and a breath of fresh air than anybody else, especially if they happen to be on the dark side of the color scheme of things.

It is a damned shame that there are not more than 2,000 Negro voters in Jefferson County, which is the second largest Negro community in the world. It is not held here that the Negro is entirely blameless for this condition, because I am told there are thousands of ex-soldiers in this area who can get the ballot without the pay[illegible] back poll t[illegible] have been told by members of the Board of Regis[illegible] that many Negroes have been granted the right t[illegible] and vote and have not paid their poll tax. Many of those just did not pay and many of them have not been able to to "scull up the thirty or forty bucks" required. They say the state law does not

These anti-poll-taxers get things a bit mixed up at times. They are somewhat like the man who said, "I'm no hen but I know a rotten egg when I smell it any day." What they miss, it seems to me, in their sincere efforts to make the right to vote as free as the right to tax for anything in the name of the government of the people by the people and for the people, is the fact that $1.50 ought not to keep any man from voting, if he really wants to vote and that is all that stands in his way. The anti-poll-taxers really mean that a voteless people is a defepseless people. They are trying

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d scrimination in this matter, but that the law is not greater than the Board members who must approve your application to vote.

The State of Alabama should, through its executive or legislative branches make it possible for any responsible man or woman to acquire the ballot. It ought to be a felony to deny the ballot to any man or woman who might be subject to being called upon to lay down his or her life in defense of the stars and stripes. Make the requirements as rigid as safety dictates, but feed whites and blacks out of the same spoon not only in matters of federal elections, but a... elections. Taxation without representation is still tyrany and in this day it is the highest form of piracy.

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Behold the spectacle of Bilbo in Mississippi, a lone loner, who because of some antiquated right to speak as long as he desires on anything he can think of, is blocking the whole will of the Senate with the help of a dozen supporters. There is much wrong with a setup which permits a prejudiced mad man like Bilbo to get away with that type of thing.

The minority of the people of the South, anl maybe other sections of the nation are not ready to participate as they should in the execution of many of the great responsibilities of a democratic program, but those who are ready ought be sought out and brought within the fold of those who elect the persons who are to rule over us. Any conspiracy to defeat the worthy in this, regardless of their race, ought be a felony.

Last year, I sat in the Senate Gallery and heard Senator Bilbo exclaim "When prosecuting a nigra for having done anoher nigra a wrong I like to have nigras on the jury. There is nothing one nigra likes to do more than to convict another nigra." This was given as his reason for "loving" the "nigra" "in his place"— convicting other "nigras."

Senator Bilbo sits in a nice warm seat in Washington. He gets more money for this type of thing in a year than my whole host of brothers and sisters make in five years. My brother—the youngest—is possible for Bilbo to stage a fillibuster to keep that very boy from having to say by the way of the ballot about the type of man who will rule over and control him when he comes back, perhaps shell-shocked, and maybe, he might never come back.

Taxation without representation is tyrany. Bilbo does not represent my brother who may have to die for him. I hate Hitler and I hate the philosophy which bars people by all sorts of subtefuge from an opportunity to share in the administration of the government under which they live.

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I am an American, therefore I hate slavery in any form. I cannot get so "het" up about fighting to make the world free for people all over the world without at the same time getting mighty warm about the necessity of freedom at home for me and mine.

I do not believe in revolutionary changes. I know our society could not stand sudden changes even for the good, no more than my eyes could stand the light of the sun if it were turned on at full blast at midnight instead of having it come first—then the dawn and the morning. But, it is time for the morning of a new day in this section of the United States for its ten million Negro people. There is a divinity that tells me so and tells me to tell you, my reader. If I did not speak, the rocks and hills would scream because unless we, white and black, in the deep South, go out and fetch the dawn and and the morning of a new and better day, we shall se a Sodom and Gomorrah.

DEC 11 1943

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Fate Of Anti-Poll Tax Bill

Argus—St. Louis, Mo.

WASHINGTON, D. C. Nov. 3—It is time that the talk around the lobbies and private offices the Senate come into the open. It concerns a time-table plot to prevent consideration of H. R. 7, the Mercantonio anti-poll tax bill at this session of Congress, to get it tangled in the tax and appropriation bill of early 1944.

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cance of the Connally time-table cance of the Conally time-table becoming clear.

First the Senate Judiciary Committee sat upon—but did not discuss—the bill from May when the House passed it by overwhelming majority, until the end of September.

Then, just a month ago, the Committee voted to hold hearings on constitutional questions in regard to the bill, which meant going all over again the same ground that was minutely covered by the same committee in 1942.

These hearings were set for a month ahead, which was Monday of this week. The Connally time-table gained another month.

At the time the hearings were set, Senator Van Nuys, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, promised they would be prompt and brief.

On Monday and Tuesday last, the Senate Committee heard Joseph A. Padway, A F of L counsel, Lee Pressman, CIO counsel, and Representative William L. Dawson of Chicago demonstrates the constitutionality of H. R. 7.

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Then the committee announced it had no more time this week and would sart the remainder of the hearings next Monday, at which time opposition lawyers would argue the bill is unconstitutional. No announcement was made as to who these lawyers would be, but it is generally believed that they will be the attorneys general of three poll tax states.

Another week was gained on the Connally time-table.

What will happen next Monday, no one knows. It is certain that the poll taxers will attempt to extend the time-table still further. No one would be surprised if a poll tax attorney general scheduled to speak should be struck down with a cold or a sniffle and out of "courtesy" the hearings dragged out another week, two weeks, or three weeks.

And at this point we come to the nub of the whole plot.

The poll tax Senators are organizing a movement to have Congress adjourn on November 15 or thereabout, not to meet again until January.

The time-table of delay becomes crystal clear.

If this thing goes through, every member of the Senate Judiciary Committee who has agreed to the delaying tactics which took such definite shape on September 25 has agreed to the delaying tactics which took such definite shape on September 25 is guilty of sabotage of the anti-poll tax bill. And not a single senator on or off the Judiciary Committee has opened his mouth once to oppose these tactics.

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Your Two Senators Are Among Those Guilty of keeping their mouths shut in the face of this monstrous plot against democracy.

Poll Tax Bill Vote Again Delayed In Senate

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Continuing their stalling tactics, the Senate Judiciary Committee on Monday again delayed a vote on the controversial Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill until Friday.

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No reason for the new postponement was given by Chairman Frederick Van Nuys (D., Ind.) and it was believed that Southerners in the committee were responsible for the new delay, which has been their strategy since the introduction of the measure.

The judiciary committee should be prepared to vote on reporting the bill to the floor, Chairman Van Nuys (D) said, following the last of the committee hearings on the question of constitutionality.

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The committee heard only one witness against the constitutionality of the bill last Tuesday although Sen. Tom Connolly, leading the opposition in the upper chamber, had promised three. He was Charles Warren, attorney general in the Wilson administration and writer on law subjects.

Prodded by Sen. John A. Danaher (R) of Connecticut and Abe Murdock (D) of Utah, the aging witness made two admissions which proponents of the legislation immediately hailed as contributions for their side.

Reading from that section of the Soldier Vote Bill of 1942 which outlawed the poll tax as a requirement before soldiers could vote, Sen. Murdock drew the admission that that was within the power of Congress. Warren saw it as an extension of the "war powers."

Sen. Murdock was attempting to show that if the Congress could do away with the poll tax in that instance, that it certainly had the power to do it with regard to the citizenry as a whole.

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Prior to this, however, Sen. Danaher referred the witness to Section 2 of the 14th amendment and asked him whether or not he thought a possible approach to the question might not be made through a reduction of the representation of the eight poll tax states based upon the extent to which otherwise eligible persons are denied the privilege of voting. "Unquestionably" was the Warren reply. The section reads in part:

"Representatives shall be apportioned among the several states according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each state . . . But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for president and vice president of the United States, representatives in congress . . . etc., is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such state . . . or in any way abridged . . . the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens 21 years of age in such state."

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Sen. Connolly was asked to comment on Warren's views with regard to reduction in representation but he refused. "He (meaning Warren) didn't go into the question," the senator said. Later, however, he said that the reduction could be made "if it could be proved the rights of voters had been abridged."

POLL TAX BAN IS URGED BY SENATE COMMITTEE

New York Times

But the Minority Says Only Way Is by an Amendment

New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (U.P.) — The Senate Judiciary Committee, recommending passage of a bill approved by the House to outlaw the payment of a poll tax as a requirement for voting, said today that most poll taxes were written to prohibit the Negro and poor white from voting.

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The committee majority contended that a poll tax was illegal and unconstitutional, basing the statement on the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution, which prohibit the States from denying citizens a vote because of race and from enforcing "any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States."

A minority report contended that the only way to abolish poll taxes is by a Constitutional Amendment rather than by legislation. Signing it were Senators Connally, Democrat of Texas; Austin, Republican of Vermont; Hatch, Democrat of New Mexico; O'Mahoney, Democrat of Wyoming; Andrews, Democrat of Florida, and Rever-

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No Poll Tax In This Georgia City

Amsterdam Star-News

ATLANTA, Ga., (ANP) — This community, which states that only electors who have the qualification to vote for their State Legislatures may vote for a member of Congress.

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Republican of West Virginia, has been asked by many persons to take the lead in the fight against the poll tax on the ground that it is unconstitutional.

They based their argument against prohibiting the poll tax on the Fifteenth Amendment which states that the right to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude.

Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution was adopted? The States could legally fix the qualifications of voters until the Fifteenth Amendment was ratified.

"The only way to 'modernize' the Constitution is by enacting legislation, but by amending the Constitution," he asked, "that the 'right' of women to vote was denied in most States for forty-nine years after the Civil War?"

"How does it happen," the minority report asked, "that the 'right' of women is not by amending the Constitution, but by legislation, becoming a qualified voter in municipal elections. The poll tax payers is not a prerequisite to vote in one in the State where collection of taxes is made.

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One God---One People
People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

NOV 27 1943

By BEN RICHARDSON

AS LONG AS 10,000,000 AMERICANS cannot enjoy the privilege of the ballot in National elections, we who do are only partly privileged. The presence of the poll-tax in seven of the 48 states means that the freedom of the people in the remaining 41 is incomplete. There is a real service the pulpit can render in the beleagured states as well as in the states where no such violation of the Democratic way exists. The people need to know the facts about the poll-tax. They need to know what it is . . . how it works . . . what the evils of it are and how to act constructively to have it ablished.



RICHARDSON

There is no service so self-compensating as that of informing the laiety concerning those things which will make them a freer people. These and more facts can be secured from The National Committee to Abolish the Poll-Tox, 10 Independence ave., W[illegible]

NOV 27 1943

A FEW POLL-TAX FACTS

Before he can vote, an American must pay a poll tax if he resides in any of the following States: Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia. The tax is from $1.00 to $2.00 a year and is cumulative for varying periods in four of the seven States. After 20 years' lapse, for example, not $1.50 but $30 must be paid.

Poor southerners who live on credit . . . sharecroppers and company-town miners who have no money from day to day and year to year cannot vote.

HISTORY OF THE POLL-TAX

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In Colonial times the poll-tax was different in effect from the present evil. It was used then to make certain that the right of voting was not limited to the rich real estate owners.

In 1776 Pennsylvania abandoned its real estate requirements and substituted the payment of a small tax instead . . . thus many poor people got a chance to vote. South Carolina adopted a similar extension of Democracy in 1778 and New Hampshire and Georgia followed suit in 1784 and 1789.

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When the Federal Constitution came into effect March 4, 1789, four of the eleven States that had ratified it had reduced their voting requirements to some form of light tax. The progress from a property requirement to a tax payment to universal manhood suffrage was rapid. Vermont and Kentucky entered the Union in 1791 and 1792 with full free manhood suffrage. In 1792 New Hampshire abolished its Poll-tax. Many other States maintained the tax in some form but more as a source of revenue, rather than as a prerequisite for the franchise.

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Alabama entered the Union without a Poll-tax and all new States after her came in with similar freedom. By the first half of the 1800's, Virginia, New Jersey, Maryland, and Tennessee had all done away with the Poll-tax.

THE BEGINNING OF THE EVIL DAYS

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Free manhood suffrage lasted about a half century; then the old system of taxing with intent to limit the rights of the citizen was re-established. In 1890, Tennessee which had been without a Poll-tax since 1834 enacted a Poll-tax in 1890. It was soon apparent what great evil had been done. The number of voters in the 1892 elections was nearly 40,000 less than it had been in previous times (four years earlier). Mississippi enacted its tax the same year and the difference in the number of people who were able to pay it and vote

was even greater. The 1888 elections attracted 117,000 folk and four years later only 52,000 folk voted. . . This was a drop of over 50%. South Carolina adopted a poll-tax in 1895, Alabama in 1901, Virginia in 1901 and Texas in 1903.

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NOT A NEGRO PROBLEM ALONE

The Poll-tax is aimed at Negroes and poor whites. It is not a Negro problem alone. Those who fight it from this standpoint only half understand the true issue. Actually more Whites are disfranchised than Negroes.

But the greatest evils of the Poll-tax are to be found in the social degradation that comes in its wake. The States that have a Poll-tax spend less than half the amount for education that is spent in the non-tax States. In Mississippi he expenditure was less than one fourth of the average throughout the Nation.

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Illiteracy in the Poll-tax States is much higher than in the Country as a whole. The National average of illiterate persons above the age of 10 is 4. In Virginia it is twice as high, 9, and in South Carolina it is three times as great or 15.

The 8 Poll-tax States have had about three times as many lynchings as the whole country. Mississippi, Georgia and Texas lead in that order. The total for the Poll-tax States is 2,713. These same States have the highest homicide rates also. Texas, Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee lead the nation.

This brief notice gives some idea of the necessity for united action to have this un-American atrocity removed from the midst of freedom seeking people.

Perry Howard Would Amend Poll Tax Bill

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Says Measure Will Not Assure Race Voting Privilege

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The question of Federal regulation of the entire voting process where Federal offices are at stake was interjected last Friday into the discussion of pending legislation for the abolition of the poll tax as a prequisite to voting.

Perry W. Howard, Republican national committeeman for Mississippi, raised the question in a letter written to Senator William Langer, Republican, of North Datkota. The Howard letter, however, was read on the floor of the Senate by Senator Theodore G. (The Man) Bilbo, Democrat of Mississippi, who used it in an argument against passage of the Marcantonio bill.

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HOWARD ASKED AMENDMENT

Specifically, Howard asked Senator Langer to offer an amendment which would require each major political party to be represented at the registration of voters.

To buttress his request he referred to the arbitrary action of registration officials in southern States, who adopt various pretexts for refusing to register colored persons who are qualified otherwise to vote.'

Howard attacked the Marcantonio bill in its present form as "not worth the paper it is written on so far as it guarantees the colored man a vote in the south."

SUPPORTS CONTENTION

To support this contention, he said:

"If one has paid his poll tax for forty years on time without breaking the continuity he must register before he can vote.

"The matter of registration is in the hands of the circuit court clerk and there is no appeal from his decision to the courts when he denies one the right to register.

"Under the understanding clause (the ability to interpret the provisions of the Constitution —State or Federal) of the educational clause, this clerk can arbitrarily use the subterfuge to prevent one from registering, even though he is a graduate of a leading university of the land, a large taxpayer, and one of unimpeachable character."

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WOULD OBLIGATE VOTERS

Howard added that it would be unfortunate for colored people if either political party succeeded in passing the Marcantonio bill as drawn, because it would obligate colored voters to the responsible party for its passage "when they are getting nothing in return."

The Marcantonio bill slept peaceably last week without any senator moving its consideration. This was the second week that has elapsed since a motion for its consideration became in order.

Opponents of the measure have threatened a filibuster, and its supporters have shown an unwillingness to meet the threat.

STRATEGY MEETING

A scheduled conference to plan strategy on bill was postponed Wednesday of last week when Sen. Frederick and Nuys (D) of Indiana found himself trying to clarify the liquor situation as chairman of a senate sub-committee studying the matter.

Meanwhile, the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax announced through its secretary, Catherine Shryver, that an emergency meeting of the executive conference had been called for Wednesday, December 8, at which 125 supporters from various parts of the country were to attend.

The meeting was called for the purpose of mobilizing all potential aid in the states for cloture and for a final vote on the legislation. "We want to step up the public angle," Mrs. Shryver stated.

"We have had much work done by the organizations. We're going to roll up our sleeves in the morning, and lobby in the afternoon."

South Fears Poll Taxers

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

LITTLE ROCK—(ANP) — US Senator Hattie W. Caraway is in receipt of a letter this week from Dr. J. M. Robinson, president of the Arkansas Negro Democratic Association, revealing his fear of consequences and repercussions among white southerners, it has been reported, if the anti-poll tax bill is passed.

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● "The passage of this bill without some form of amendment will do very little good and probably great harm in the south where racial matters are already tense to the breaking point," he wrote.

Political reforms of such potentiality are seldom made by legislation, Dr. Robinson pointed out. That he thinks the bill is aimed solely at the white southerner rather than a means of emancipat- by a process of evolution."

● "Southern white men are not ing both races was brought out in his letter when he said:

● "Southern Negroes how to use ful and even though the passes they are capable of cir- cumventing the ultimate affect.

● "Let them permit that rule ing "rule" in comformity supreme court ruling in of US vs. Classic from

passage of this bill will amend primaries. This has been my con- tention for the last 15 years," he stressed.

Such reforms are brough about southern states the case of US vs. Classic from so readily subdued. They are fact- ballot propel in the South, Louisiana. After stating that no prepara- tion had been previously made to with the supreme court ruling bill either defeat or amendment of the bill, with a to read instead of white demo- who may qualify as specific understanding that the crats, all

Playing the Wrong Game

Washington Tribune

The Republicans are playing a losing game if they think that Negroes will be fooled over their insincerity on the anti-poll tax bill.

Old line Republicans who think that the Negro is an illiterate race, who will [illegible] at vinegar if a little sugar is in it will find out come election day that we are a little older and brighter than they think.

This type of game was played in connection with the vote on the Educational Bill. Many Republicans, posing as friends of the Negro, voted favorably on an anti-discrimination amendment, and then gave the lie to their sincerity by voting to recommit the bill after the amendment, much to their surprise, had been adopted. The motion to kill the bill was made by Republican Taft, of Ohio. Washington, D. C.

Comes now the anti-poll tax bill, which, at present stages, seems to be moving close to enactment. The Republicans, wary lest the Democratic administration receive credit for its passage, are maneuvering to prevent its passage, and at the same time save their faces with the Negroes.

At the last session of Congress the game was to announce in favor of the bill, but against voting for cloture which limits debate, thus assuring a vote on the merits of the bill. The vote for cloture was lost, and thereby the bill, when Republicans voted in bloc against cloture along with poll tax Senators from the Southern States.

The bill is once again on the Senate calendar, having previously passed the House.

Republicans, who used Senator Langer, of North Dakota, with no Negro constituents, to block passage of the Educational Bill, are again relying on him to block passage of the anti-poll tax bill without losing the Republican face.

Last week, after the Judiciary Committee had voted favorably on the bill, after blocking a substitute proposal by Senator Joseph O'Mahoney, Democrat, of Wyoming, Senator Langer moved for reconsideration of the substitute which would put the question up to the States through a Constitutional amendment.

The committee, having agreed to reconsider the question the following day, Senator Langer and his Republican cohorts, set about to round up committee votes in favor of the substitute. He failed in his efforts by only one vote. The committee turned the substitute down by a vote of 9 to 8, with Langer and Connally voting on the same side.

There is no doubt that Senator O'Mahoney will offer his substitute on the floor when the bill is debated. Republican Senators can be expected to support it unless they are impressed by the fact that Negroes aren't dumb nor blind.

We want the anti-poll tax bill passed as it came from the Committee, which is as it passed the House. We are opposed to any superfluous amendments that will give aid and comfort to the Southern filibusterers. After a fair and open debate, we want those who claim to be sincere to vote for cloture, thus permitting a vote on the bill.

If this bill is blocked by a filibuster or otherwise, Republicans and Democrats alike who are responsible will meet disaster at the polls.

A man is not a friend of the Negro by self-proclamation. He becomes our friend by his deeds. We make the appraisal. A hint to the wise is sufficient.

Another Filibuster

Courier

As was to be expected, Dixie politicians are sharpening their knives to kill the Mapes-Gantonio anti-poll tax bill which was passed by the House of Representatives on March 25, by a 265-86-110 vote. Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sixteen Southern Senators met last week in secret session to plan the murder of this bill.

With Senator Tom Connally of Texas as the leading spirit of the conspiracy, ably assisted by Senator Stewart of Tennessee and Senators Bilbo and [illegible] of Mississippi, we may be sure that [illegible] will stage a filibuster against the anti-poll tax bill as formidable as that they have always staged against an anti-lynching bill.

While the bill will surely be killed by this action, it will afford the country a spectacle of the insincerity of the other Senators in non-poll tax States who pretend to be all out for democracy.

For there is no indication whatever that these Senators are going to vote for cloture, which is the only way the filibuster can be stopped.

As long as any senator can get up and talk interminably on this bill, it has not the slightest chance of passing.

Invoking cloture rule would limit debate and force the bill to a vote, but the senators are not going to invoke it.

Aside from the touching traditional consideration which Congress has always shown for the sensibilities of the white South—the planter-banker-mill owner South—there seems to be little desire to encourage American Negroes in their struggle for full democratic rights.

This will be demonstrated more clearly if the Republicans win the next Congress and this anti-poll tax bill is again presented to them.

It was a Republican Senate that killed the Dyer anti-lynching bill 20 years ago.

On questions of this sort, all parties follow the same line.

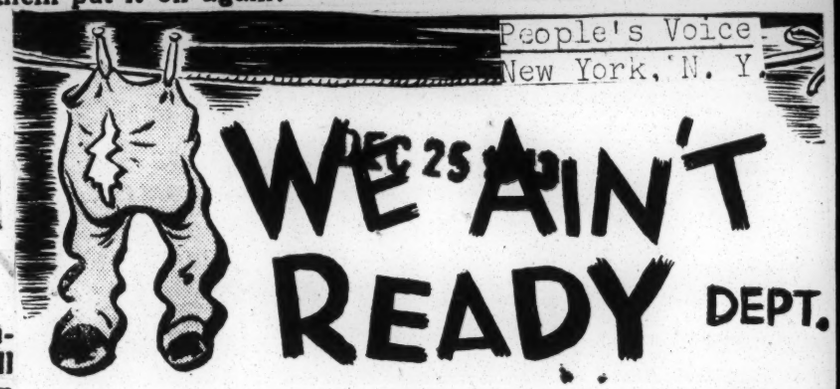
The Poll Tax Issue

Amsterdam Star-News

The Senate has shelved the anti-poll tax bill until next January. The reason given is that its sponsors fear a filibuster by the Southern senators. Therefore, it can be said that the Southerners have chalked up another victory, we hope temporary, against democratic rights and justice.

Voted favorably out of the Senate Judiciary Committee last month, the anti-poll tax bill would enfranchise ten million Negro and white citizens living in the South is one of the most important pieces of social legislation ever introduced in Congress. Its defeat will mean a serious set back for democracy for years to come. New York, N. Y.

Now that the Southerners through party manipulation and intimidation have temporarily defeated the measure, it is mandatory that all Americans interested in justice and fair play for the ten million disfranchised Negro and white citizens in the South demand of their Senators that they fight for the passage of the anti-poll tax bill next January. Don't let them put it off again!



Prexy of the Arkansas Negro Democratic Association is Dr. J. M. Robinson. In a letter written to poll tax Senator Hattie Caraway of Texas, Dr. Robinson lambasts the poll tax, says the bill should be amended to read that . . . "all who may qualify as Democrats may vote in the primaries." This naive solution preaches the old opium of party voting, when intelligent voters are learning how to cross party lines, to vote for men, not parties.

THE POLL TAX FIGHT

The National Committee to Abolish Poll Tax has released a pamphlet of facts on the issue. In the poll tax states in 1942 three per cent of the population voted as against 25 per cent in the non-poll tax states. In 1940 [illegible] per cent in the poll tax states voted as against 43 per cent in non-poll tax states. In 1940 of the potential voters in poll tax states, only 22 per cent voted, and in the non-poll tax states of the potential vote 71 per cent voted, automatically making two-thirds of the voters in poll tax states disfranchised. Of the 79 poll tax representatives, 60 had no opposition in election. In Arkansas, Mississippi, and South Carolina, all poll tax states, not a single opposition vote was cast. More votes were cast for two representatives from Rhode Island, the smallest state in the Union, than for 87 representatives from South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and five districts of Virginia. In the primary states of the South, where the real elections occur, in the 1942 election 47 of the 78 poll tax districts had no cnotest for the primaries. Thus Negroes, who are excluded from these primaries, are the double victims of this evil. It is also said boldly that relatives and friends of political leaders don't have to pay their poll taxes, because they are paid for them, and in some states a machine boss can buy up a blcok of 5000 or 6000 votes and if found guilty, would only have to pay a fine of $5.00.

Viewed from the long range, the South have expressed themselves as opposed to a Federal anti-poll tax law, because they think it is an invasion of states rights and that the states ought to handle the repeal of poll tax. However, they got a setback when Tennessee, which had voted to repeal the poll tax, saw the state Supreme Court in July hold the repeal unconstitutional. In a 3-2 decision poll tax judges of the court vetoed the will of the people to abolish poll tax. So it is unable to [illegible] like the South is unable to [illegible] of democracy.

Some of the liberal whites of the South, who live in the South, are now disfranchised through the aid and use of the poll tax. America needs to right this wrong in its own machine before it can do anything about the poll tax.

52e-1943
Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

POLL TAX

Negro Delegates, Murray Hit Poll Tax; CIO Pushes Fight

NOV 5 1943

By Doxey Wilkerson
(Daily Worker Staff Correspondent)

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 4.—The third day of the CI Convention concluded with a spirited discussion of anti-po tax legislation which came near overshadowing even th earlier appearance of Vice-President Henry A. Wallace an Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. High lighting the discussion wer impressive addresses by a Negro delegate from Bessemer, Alabama, Louis Tarrant; Reid Robinson, President of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers of America, and CIO President Philip Murray.

Declaring "Where I live, I can have all the voting I want in my union hall and in my church, but after that I'm supposed to keep mum," Tarrant called upon the convention to insist upon prompt passage of anti-poll tax legislation. "It is our complete object in the South," he stated, "to win the war. That is our first job. But when our boys come back to Alabama from the battlefields, they expect something better than they left. The least they expect is the chance to go to the polls and vote as citizens of the nation for which they fought."

The delegate then told of having to pay $27.50 in back poll taxes, and still was not allowed to register. He pointed out, however, that this is not solely a Negro issue, stating that "our white as well as our colored brothers are disfranchised."

Following an impassioned plea for abolition of the poll tax by Delegate Noel Beddoe, Secretary of the Alabama State Industrial Union Council, Reid Robinson, National President of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, took the floor to address the convention.

President Robinson declared: "This is not a problem exclusively of the Negro people, nor is it a problem exclusively of the South. This poll tax issue is a problem of prime concern to every citizen of the United States who believes in our Constitution, who believes in the things for which our flag stands, and who believes in what our boys are fighting for."

The text of the anti-poll tax resolution, which was adopted by the unanimous standing vote of the convention, amidst prolonged cheering and applause by the delegates, resolved:

"That this convention calls upon the Senate Judiciary Committee to report out the anti-poll tax bill with a favorable recommendation;

"We also call upon the Senate of the United States to discharge its obligation to the people of the nation and enact forthwith this legislation eliminating the poll tax and not to permit or tolerate any unscrupulous filibustering on the part of the clique of poll tax Senators intent upon preserving their personal political position with a callous disregard of the national emergency and popular will;

"Each delegate to this convention should immediately communicate with the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee and their Senators in Congress to obtain immediate and favorable action on the pending anti-poll tax legislation."

In his most impassioned address of the convention, CIO President Philip Murray castigated the Senate Judiciary Committee for its "most unheard of legislative procedure" in requiring testimony on the "constitutionality" of a bill to enfranchise American citizens before it would consider the merits of the proposed legislation.

Tying the anti-poll tax bill up with the war, President Murray asked, with a tremor in his voice: "Why are our boys now engaged in this blood bath? What are we fighting for? What is this war about? Are we fighting merely to die, or are we fighting this global war to give the enslaved peoples of the world the right to liberty? There is no democracy when the individual is deprived of the right to vote!"

MURRAY URGES ACTION

Mr. Murray continued: "It is a sin in the eyes of heaven that in this day and age when America is engaged in this kind of a war, that you and I should have to look upon the populations of eight states deprived of the very things we are fighting and dying for." He declared that "every delegate attending this convention should consider it his individual responsibility to address a telegram to the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee demanding the release of the anti-poll tax bill. . . . Let the Senate of the United States heed the voices of the people of this country—the voices of all except a few Southern imperialists who desire after this war to regain their supremacy. There is a principle in this issue that ties it to the things we are fighting for and dying for!"

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Filibuster on Poll Tax Bill Called Travesty

Lee Pressman, General Counsel of the CIO last week told the Senate Judiciary Committee, hearing arguments on the constitutionality of H.R. 7, the bill to abolish the poll tax in Federal elections, that:

"All we ask is that the elected representatives of the people be given a chance to pass on this issue which the Senate, in three and a half years, has never had."

Mr. Pressman pointed out that the House of Representatives has twice passed anti-poll tax legislation by overwhelming votes, and urged that the Senate Judiciary Committee report the measure without further delays to the floor of the Senate for a vote. Mr. Pressman said that if an irresponsible minority of Senators attempted to filibuster to prevent the Senate from voting on the bill, it would be "a travesty of the democratic process."

New York Times

SENATE BODY VOTES ANTI-POLL TAX BILL

Committee Divides 12 to 6 on Reporting Out Measure—Filibuster Threatened

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4—A 12-to-6 vote in the Senate Judiciary Committee reported out the House-adopted Marcantonio Poll Tax Repeal Bill today, putting the measure in position for floor fight that it was conceded would develop a filibuster such as killed similar legislation last year.

Before the bill reaches the Senate for consideration, however, it is expected to have as a competitor a resolution, sponsored by Senator O'Mahoney, Democrat of Wyoming, calling for repeal of the poll taxes in eight Southern States by means of a constitutional amendment. A vote on that resolution may be taken by the committee Monday. A tie vote of nine to nine prevented it from being reported out with the Marcantonio bill today. It was predicted that approval would be given on the next test.

As the committee was giving its approval to the repeal which the House passed May 25 by a vote of 265—110, Senator Bilbo of Mississippi, a poll-tax State, served notice that the taking of such a measure to the floor would be the signal for a filibuster.

Claims Votes to Beat Cloture

"And there are enough Senators who believe in free and unlimited debate," he added, "to prevent the invoking of cloture that would shut off full discussion of this issue."

Last year when the poll tax fight was on, twenty-eight Senators voted against cloture, defeating the two-thirds majority necessary to invoke it.

Those who insisted upon a Senate poll tax fight, Mr. Bilbo said, would have "to take the responsibility" if ensuing debate resulted in the blocking or sidetracking of important war legislation.

Poll taxes are in effect in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

Only one member of the Judiciary Committee, Senator Connally of Texas, represents a poll tax State. The entire membership of eighteen voted either directly or by proxy today.

Voting for the Marcantonio bill were Senators Van Nuys of Indiana, McCarran of Nevada, Chandler of Kentucky, Kilgore of West Virginia, Murdock of Utah, McFarland of Arizona and Wheeler of Montana, Democrats; and Senators Danaher of Connecticut, Wiley of Wisconsin, Langer of North Dakota, Ferguson of Michigan and Wherry of Nebraska, Republicans.

Opposing the measure were Senators Connally and O'Mahoney, Hatch of New Mexico and Andrews of Florida, Democrats; and Senators Austin of Vermont, Revercomb of West Virginia, Republicans.

Future Senate Procedure

In its present position, the bill may be called up on the successful motion of any member of the Senate. There was no indication, however, that such a motion would be made untill a canvass had been made of other legislation which might be blocked by protracted debate. There appeared to be a disposition to delay consideration of anti-poll tax legislation until the impending tax and subsidy fights were over.

The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax stated tonight that a victory had been won through the decisive vote of the Judiciary Committee but viewed the O'Mahoney constitutional amendment resolution as "a last-ditch stand" by foes of the House bill.

"This is a clever delaying tactic which if approved by the Judiciary Committee would prevent the abolition of the poll tax for years," the organization's statement charged.

Fla. CIO Presses Fight on Poll Tax

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

MIAMI.—The Florida State CIO Council, with 14 affiliates from seven cities represented, reaffirmed labor's no-strike pledge, condemned John L. Lewis as a "traitor to the war effort," and declared support for President Roosevelt's win-the-war policies and for an early victory through offensive military action.

The Council also demanded that Florida's Senators take an active part in fighting for adoption of the anti-poll tax bill and for passage of the anti-lynch bill.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15.—Two Southern poll tax sponsors of the measure while they set up a hundred amendments that will consume weeks of time for adequate debate and consideration."

The senators—James O. Eastland (D., Miss.) and John L. McClellan (D., Ark.)—charged in a joint statement that the bill was backed by the Communist Party and the "radical hybrid" American Labor Party in their program to socialize America."

Informed by the Laundry Workers Union that laundry employers are defying a War Labor Board order, the CIO Council wired the WLB asking that the properties be

Birmingham, Alabama Post

FILIBUSTER SHAPES ON POLL TAX BILL

By United Press.

The Anti-Poll Tax Bill

The anti-poll tax bill, H.R. 7, will come before the Senate in the fall. There it is threatened by three dangers. It is threatened by being bottled up in the Judiciary Committee. It is threatened by a filibuster on the floor. It is threatened by a "gentleman's agreement" to drop the bill if it ruffles too much Southern political fur. Therefore there is particular timeliness for all organizations and individuals interested in seeing democracy work to begin immediately a drive to perfect passage of this bill.

As long as most of the Southern states require a tax as a prerequisite to voting, there will always be a clog on the franchise and a menace to the entire democratic system of American government.

The record shows that the poll tax is a heavy burden on the American people; that ten million are disfranchised; that three-fifths of the adults in the poll tax states cannot even vote for President; that only a handful of people—10,000 as against 77,000 in non-poll tax states—vote for each Congressman.

In direct violation of the 14th Amendment, the voting citizens of Northern and Western states are outrepresented seven to one in the House by the Poll taxers who legislate on issues affecting the whole country. Hence the poll tax is a national, not just a Southern issue.

The poll tax permits the seating of 50 "representatives" in Congress who were elected by a total of fewer votes than were cast in electing one Illinois Congressman. Low votes both in the election and in the primaries foster machine control and curruption, strengthen the anachronistic one-party system, and stifle opposition. This results in rotten districts and in the same poll tax-ers being reelected year after year, decade after decade. Such long and secure tenure through the operation in Congress of the principle of seniority, results in the poll-taxers controlling a major share of the principal committee positions. From this vantage point they sway an undue proportion of conference committees, develop great skill in parliamentary intrigue and maneuvering through their many years of experience, and consequently assume a dominating position in both House and Senate.

They control the Rules Committee and the Speakership and through them the decision as to what legislation shall be considered. On these massive foundations they can create special "investigating committees" like Dies, Smith, Cox and others, that further add to their prestige and power. This is as true of the Senate as it is of the House.

What the poll tax does to the eight states themselves is to keep them at the bottom of every health, housing, and educational standards list, and near the top of every list of crime, disease, and poverty, because the people who would benefit by the correction of these condition have no share in their government. Thus the poll tax is not an ancient relic; it is a modern tool of corrupt machine politics.

Three Southern states have already gotten rid of it. In the other eight states, it is embedded in almost impossible-to-amend state constitutions. If it is to be removed, federal action is needed. Federal anti-poll tax bills have twice passed the House by large majorities. The present bill, H.R. 7, will meet its Senate test in the fall of this year.

Let's prepare now to meet that test successfully by deluging our Senators now urging their support, actively and openly, toward the end that this important piece of legislation may be enacted into law.

SEP 25 1943

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

SEP 25 1943

SEP 25 1943

SEP 25 1943

A Heart-to-Heart Letter on the Anti-Poll Tax Bill

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Friend:

I write you because on May 25, 1943, something of great importance happened to you and me.

On May 25, the House of Representatives passed a bill—known as HR 7—to abolish the poll tax in the eight Southern States where it still exists. Whether we live in one of those States or not, that is very important to us. The poll tax keeps 10 million colored and white Americans who cannot afford to pay the tax from voting. This permits Congressmen to be elected by some 3 per cent of the population, as they were in the last election in the poll-tax States. And these Congressmen have acted for the 3 per cent who elected them, not for the 97 per cent—people like you and me. These are the Congressmen who allow jim crow to flourish; who refuse to pass the antilynching bill, who block effective price control, and who try to stand in the way of the quick winning of the war.



Mrs. Bethune

Fascists in the House Defeated

In the House the battle against them has been won. But in the Senate, enemies of the bill are devising ways to smother it.

The bill is stuck in the Senate Judiciary Committee. It must be reported out favorably onto the Senate floor. Here there must be a vote on it. But Senator Bilbo of Mississippi has threatened to keep the bill from coming to a vote by talking until the Senate goes home again— for 18 months if necessary. Such time-wasting talk is a filibuster.

To break this filibuster, two-thirds of the Senators must vote to stop talk after fair discussion—that is, to invoke "cloture." Our job this summer is to pledge sixty-four Senators to vote for cloture.

If a few Senators are going to resort to tricks, we must do these things to stop them: Will you and your club write first to the Senators who hold the bill in committee and urge them to report it out favorably:

Write letters to these men:

Senator Van Nuys (Ind.), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

Senator McFarland (Ariz.), chairman of the subcommittee of Senate Judiciary Committee, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

Your other big job is to write, telegraph and visit the two Senators from your State and ask them to promise two things:

1. Vote for cloture over and over again until the filibuster is broken, and
2. Vote for the anti-poll tax bill itself, HR 7.

Special Appeal to Women

We colored women have a special responsibility to abolish the poll tax.

Our husbands, our sweethearts, our brothers, and our sons are fighting in this war for freedom. It is our duty to see that they and we have a voice in the government of our country. We must elect to Congress people who will represent us as well as the 3 per cent.

We are not fighting this battle alone. Colored and white people throughout the country are united. Club women, trade union members, church-goers. To abolish the poll tax is to hammer one more nail in the coffin of fascism.

Let me know what you do and what your Senators say. We must act together to abolish the poll tax.

Yours for service,

MARY McLEOD BETHUNE,
President, National Council of Negro Women.

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CIO, AFL Aides To Argue Case of Anti-Poll Tax Bill

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20. — CIO, AFL Counsel before the Judiciary Committee last week with extensive hearings on the constitutionality of the bill which abolished the

Counsel Lee Pressman, AFL Counsel Joseph A. Padway and Rep. William Dawson,, Negro Congressman from this issue when it enacted the sol-the bill out." Chairman Van Nuys, Illinois, will be the three lawyers diers' vote bill which abolished the Democrat, Indiana, told reporters,

Atlanta Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Senate Committee Slates Poll Tax Ballot Friday

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—(AP)—The Senate Judiciary Committee today postponed until Friday a vote on legislation to prohibit collection of poll taxes as a requirement for voting for federal officers.

The Senate Judiciary Committee to Abol- vote on legislation to ish the Poll Tax pointed out that election of poll t

members of the committee with telegrams and letters criticizing the committee for failure to report the bill out." Chairman Van Nuys, Democrat, Indiana, told reporters,

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Majority in Poll Tax States Favors Levy

Washington, D. C.

By George Gallup

Director, American Institute of Public Opinion

Princeton, N. J., Aug. 24.—Like Federal antilynching legislation, antipoll tax bills are virtually a congressional perennial.

All but a handful of Congressmen from the eight Southern States which require payment of a poll tax as a prerequisite to voting have opposed passage of the bill. It was a threat of filibuster in the Senate which kept shelved an antipoll tax bill passed during the last session by the House with a vote of 265 to 110.

In order to discover whether the eligible voters of the poll tax States want the tax repealed or left in force, the Institute has conducted a survey in those States on the following question:

"Do you think the people in your State should have to continue paying a poll tax in order to vote?"

A similar survey was conducted in 1941. A comparison reveals virtually no change in attitude since then among regular voters who have paid their poll taxes. The majority favor keeping the poll tax requirement.

Here are the results of the two surveys:

Eligible Voters in Poll Tax States

	Today	1941
Favor retaining poll tax	53%	53%
Favor abolishing poll tax	37	35
No opinion	10	12

The eight States which require payment of poll taxes are Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas and Texas. The Tennessee Legislature abolished the poll tax law in January, but the State Supreme Couht overruled its action and the tax remains in effect.

Stiff voting requirements, poll taxes and the like are not a peculiar Southern institution. In the early days in this country, only people who owned property could vote. At one period in U. S. Colonial history, only one person in 10 was eligible to vote in the City of Philadelphia, for example.

The poll tax system in the South is of comparatively recent origin, going back only to the period between 1880 and the early 1900's. The poll taxes were instituted at that time chiefly as a means of combating the popularity of the Populist Party among the poor whites of the South.

SENATE GROUP VOTES 12-6 FOR POLL TAX BAN

Chicago, Illinois
Chicago Tribune

But Bilbo Is Ready with Another Filibuster

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Washington, D. C., Nov. 12.—The senate judiciary committee today approved the anti-poll tax bill by a vote of 12 to 6. Sen. Theodore G. Bilbo [D., Miss.], whose filibustering tactics killed similar legislation last year, immediately served notice that he plans the same strategy in an effort to defeat the bill when it is brought before the senate.

The measure received house approval on May 25. The vote was 265 to 110. It would outlaw collection of state poll taxes as a requirement for voting for federal officials—a provision that is now in effect in eight southern states—Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia.

Discussion at Length.

"The senators who are sponsoring this legislation know full well it will be discussed at length," Bilbo said in the senate. "There are enough senators who believe in free and unlimited debate to prevent the invocation of a cloture rule which would shut off full discussion of this matter."

Sen. Frederick Van Nuys [D., Ind.], chairman of the judiciary committee, said those who voted for the measure, in addition to himself, were Senators Pat McCarren [D., Nev.], A. B. Chandler [D., Ky.], Harley M. Kilgore [D., W. Va.], Abe Murdock [D., Utah], Ernest W. McFarland [D., Ariz.], Burton K. Wheeler [D., Mont.], John D. Danaher [R., Conn.], Alexander Wiley [R., Wis.], William Langer [R., N. D.], Homer Ferguson [R., Mich.], and Kenneth S. Wherry [R., Neb.].

Normally Disinterred.

Those voting against the bill were Senators Tom Connally [D., Tex.], Carl A. Hatch [D., N. M.], Charles O. Andrews [D., Fla.], Warren R. Austin [R., Vt.], Chapman Revercomb [R., W. Va.], and Joseph C. O'Mahoney [D., Wyo.].

Connally told reporters he thought a big black wreath ought to be hung on the committee room door.

Some of those who opposed the measure in the committee said they believed in the principle advocated by the bill, but oppose the method of bringing it about—by a congressional act. The alternative is by constitutional amendment, which would require ratification by two-thirds of the states.

Resolution Defeated.

Sen. O'Mahoney offered a resolution calling for such an amendment before noses were counted on the house bill today, but lost, 11 to 7. After the house bill was approved O'Mahoney's resolution came up again and met a 9 to 9 deadlock.

The committee will consider the resolution again next week.

Sen. Revercomb said this afternoon in an interview that he would support the constitutional amendment plan, because he is in favor of the principle expressed.

He said he voted against the bill because he considers it unconstitutional, in violation of states' rights.

"If there was ever a time when we should abide by the Constitution, it is today," he said.

LETTER TO EDITOR

New York, N. Y.

CONGRESSMAN ASKS SUPPORT OF POLL TAX BILL

New York Times

Dear Editor:

H. R. 7, a bill to abolish the poll tax as a prerequisite for voting, will shortly be reported by the Senate Judiciary Committee to the floor of the Senate. Senator Bilbo of Mississippi has promised to conduct a filibuster for eighteen months, if necessary, in order to defeat this legislation.

For my own part, I believe that a filibuster in war time is treasonable. It is just as though a soldier in the midst of battle were to lay down his arm and go on strike, for a filibuster represents the expression of a small minority who deliberately prevent the Senate from acting on any measure until the majority of the Senate agrees to [illegible] the legislation to which the minority objects. It is fitting that the poll tax which disfranchises 75 per cent of the adult citizenry of eight Southern States should be protected from repeal by a minority filibuster of poll taxers.

Since the repeal of the poll tax has become a symbol of our faith in democracy, a sign of the integrity of our war effort, I am taking the liberty as chairman of the Steering Committees supporting poll tax repeal to send you two documents which I believe contain the best information available on the effects of the poll tax on our system of representative government and the constitutional arguments in support of its repeal. These two documents will be of value to you in any editorial comment which your paper may see fit to make upon the filibuster and upon [illegible].

As the Republican Congressman-at-Large from Ohio, I believe that the Republican Party has a real responsibility for the extension of the franchise to ten million American citizens, white and black, who are denied the ballot through the poll tax. But, in addition, I believe that the Democratic Party has a stake in poll tax repeal in that the Southern section of that party will be freed from the machine politics that now dominate it. Thus, poll tax repeal is a non-partisan issue which every American, conscious of the need to strengthen our democracy at home and our war effort abroad, can support without regard to party lines.

Those of us in Congress, both Democrats and Republicans, who have supported poll tax repeal will appreciate your earnest consideration of the issues involved, and any editorial comment which you may deem it desirable to make.

GEORGE C. BENDER,
Chair, Steering
Committee.

Senate Group Blocks Ruse to Save Poll Tax

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Adam Lapin

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15.—By a close nine to eight vote the Senate Judiciary Committee today refused to shelve the anti-poll tax bill in favor of Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney's tricky and disruptive resolution proposing a constitutional amendment to repeal the poll tax.

A last-minute campaign by labor groups and by the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax succeeded in holding the line in the anti-poll tax bill will be seriously wavering committee against the weakened by having the Judiciary O'Mahoney resolution. Committee simultaneously present

The committee had voted on Friday to report out the anti-poll tax bill by a 12 to 6 vote, and was tied to pass. nine to nine, on the O'Mahoney resolution.

FOR AND AGAINST

The nine Senators who voted today's Judiciary Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax declared today's action by the Judiciary Committee is also very much alive. 'Senators who killed the first stage of the filibuster against the repeal of the poll tax."

But O'Mahoney announced that he would bring up his resolution again in the Judiciary Committee and also indicated that he would offer it as a substitute for the Marcantonio bill, H. R. 7, when it is reported out by the committee to the floor of the Senate.

Voting for the O'Mahoney amendment were Senators Connally of Texas, Hatch of New Mexico, O'Mahoney of Wyoming, Chandler of Kentucky, Andrews of Florida, all Democrats, and Austin of Vermont and Revercomb of West Virginia, Republicans.

On Friday three Senators who voted for the anti-poll tax bill declared that they would change its vote. They were Senators Eastland of Mississippi and McClellan of Arkansas, all Democrats, and Danaher of Connecticut, Wiley of Wisconsin, Langer of North Dakota, Ferguson of Michigan and Wherry of Nebraska, all Republicans.

Voting for the anti-poll tax bill were Senators Wheeler of Montana, Van Nuys of Indiana, McFarland of Arizona, all Democrats, and Murdock of Utah.

On Friday three Senators who voted for the anti-poll tax bill declared that they would change its vote. They were Senators Eastland of Mississippi and McClellan of Arkansas, all Democrats, and Danaher of Connecticut, Wiley of Wisconsin, Langer of North Dakota, Ferguson of Michigan and Wherry of Nebraska, all Republicans.

Voting for the O'Mahoney amendment were Senators Connally of Texas, Hatch of New Mexico, O'Mahoney of Wyoming, Chandler of Kentucky, Andrews of Florida, all Democrats, and Austin of Vermont and Revercomb of West Virginia, Republicans

had originally opposed the O'Mahoney amendment switched over and this time supported it.

Armed-Forces Ballot Eliminates Poll Tax

Constitution Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15.—(AP)—A bill providing a uniform method for members of the armed forces and the Merchant Marine to vote their choice for President next year was approved today by the Senate Elections Committee, 12-2.

The legislation was reported out over the objection of two Republicans—Senators Revercomb, of West Virginia, and Moore, of Oklahoma—that it would interfere with states' rights to conduct elections.

Stripped of some features found objectionable by committee members, the bill would set up a bipartisan war ballot commission of four, appointed by the President, to supervise Army and Navy administration of absentee voting by members of the armed forces. In case of a tie vote, the chief justice of the United States would would name an associate justice to cast the deciding vote on the commission.

NOV 16 19

Absentee Ballots.

If the bill becomes law, it will permit soldiers, sailors and others in foreign battle areas, as well as those serving in this country but outside their own state, to mark an absentee ballot for President, senate and the house of representatives. They could write in the name of each candidate or merely designate his political party.

Special postcards also would be provided to members of the armed forces who wished to obtain from their state officials ballots on which they could vote for state officers, if their state permits absentee balloting.

As approved by the committee, the bill would abolish for the war period and, so far as federal races are concerned, all state requirements for voting except those of "qualification." The state requirements, however, would hold for state voting.

NOV 18 1943

Registration Not Required.

Lucas explained that members of the armed forces would be permitted to cast the absentee ballots for federal officers whether they were registered or not, so long as they fill out a certifying statement of their age and residence qualifications.

The measure also would abolish for the war period the payment of poll taxes as a prerequisite for voting by soldiers and sailors. While there was some feeling among senators that this might stir controversy of the type encountered by the anti-poll tax bill, Lucas said it was purely a war measure, adding that as such he did not believe it would be attacked.

The same methods of absentee voting would apply to the relatively few civilians serving with the armed forces outside the United States, as well as civilian officers or employes of the government who are not in this country.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Question Up to States

Bishop Cannon Urges Amendment In Poll Tax Dispute

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

THE NEW YORK TIMES of Nov. 2 gives a special press dispatch from Washington which says that the authority of Congress to outlaw the poll tax requirement from eight Southern States was disputed today by Charles Warren, Historian of the United States Supreme Court, former assistant attorney general, although he said that such a tax was unjust and should be abolished."

NOV 2 1943

This testimony recalls the amazing preamble and resolution, adopted by the New York Legislature and sent to Congress, calling for the abolition of the poll tax laws. (Congressional Record, April 12, 1943.) This preamble flatly declares that poll tax laws are "neither contemplated nor condoned by the Constitution of the United States."

Misinterpretation Charged.

NOV 24 1943

This statement not only ignores but misrepresents the facts. The Constitution contains many compromises. One of the most important matters considered by the Constitutional Convention was the proper balance of power between the State and Federal Governments, and the Constitution required ratification by the several States before it was binding upon them. It was ratified in several States only after long debates, and by a narrow margin.

The Constitution purposely and distinctly puts in the hands of the States the right to determine the basis of suffrage, and purposely leaves to each State to decide the qualifications of voters in each State, not only in State but in Federal elections also. Without this provision some of the States would not have ratified the Constitution, and the statement in the preamble of the action by the New York Legislature, that poll tax laws are "neither contemplated nor condoned by the Constitution of the United States," is directly opposed to the facts.

NOV 24 1943

Mr. Warren positively asserts that "it is up to the States to fix the qualifications for voters, the only condition being that qualifications for balloting on Federal officials must be the same as for Representatives of the lower houses of the State Legislatures. When, about twenty-five years ago, the Constitution was amended to provide for the election of Senators by the vote of the people, the same provision as to the qualification of voters was retained and adopted in that amendment.

Sweeping Statement

The statement in the preamble of the New York Legislature declares that by the poll tax laws 10,000,000 citizens are deprived of the right of suffrage. This is too sweeping. It is true that citizens cannot vote in poll tax States unless they have paid their poll taxes. For example, the poll tax of Virginia is $1.50 a year. The question involved is "Should any man who is not able, or, if able, is not willing, to pay $1.50 a year for the privilege of joining his fellow-citizens in the election of Federal or State officials be permitted to vote?"

NOV 24 1943

If the citizen is not sufficiently interested to take the trouble to register, and pay the poll tax at the time prescribed by law, or if he is too shiftless, improvident or lazy to earn and pay 3 cents a week, would such a voter be helpful in the selection of Federal and State officials? Whether the poll tax is wise and helpful may be a debatable question, but it is one which the Constitution leaves to each State to determine for itself. Any effort on the part of any Northern State to override the Constitution or to impose its views upon Southern States is a narrow-minded interference.

NOV 24 1943

The statement in the New York preamble that in the poll tax States "the forces of disunity and reaction have struggled ceaselessly against the consummation of the domestic and foreign policies of the Government, and seek to disrupt the mobilization of our forces for the successful prosecution of the war" is utterly contrary to the facts. Any comparison of the attitude of the poll tax States with the attitude of a number of the Northern and Western States toward the "successful prosecution of the war" will show that the poll tax States have contributed far more in proportion to the armed forces than have a number of Northern and Western States.

NOV 24 1943

This attack by the New York Legislature upon the eight Southern States is the result of either ignorance or prejudice, or both. It certainly has absolutely no foundation in fact. The only constitutional way in which to handle this question is by constitutional amendment, to be passed upon by the States. The wisdom of the present constitutional provision could then be considered on its merits.

JAMES CANNON JR.

Richmond, Va., Nov. 15, 1943.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

POLL TAX QUESTIONS

To the Editor of The News:

I read in The Miami Daily News under dateline "Washington, Nov. 13—If we take up the poll tax bill now, there won't be any farm subsidies, Commodity Credit Corporation, or new tax legislation," Sen. John [illegible] Bankhead (D., Ala.), said. "We might [illegible] into next year."

NOV 23 1943

Such a statement coming from one whom I have helped to elect to the United States Senate has caused me to ponder a multitude of questions.

Are we fighting to preserve our right to elect to represent us in the highest body of the legislative branch of the government of our United States a senator who pledges himself, and us, first to the proposition that Alabama shall retain, if she so elects, the use of the poll tax system of qualifying persons to vote in elections? Is the poll tax so important that it should receive first consideration at a time when our country is at war with powerful enemies?

Is the poll tax important enough to receive any consideration during this emergency by the 96 senators who have been chosen by the people to act upon the quantity of legislation required for the activities of our national government? Would legislation or a constitutional amendment prohibiting the use of a poll tax change with the stroke of a pen convictions which the people in the poll tax states have held for generations? As long as the people who must organize and administer registrations and elections hold these convictions, even if the poll tax is prohibited, will they not find other means of permitting qualified persons to vote and of prohibiting unqualified persons from voting?

Are the factions which seek to abolish the poll tax by legislation or even a constitutional amendment seeking to do something that cannot possibly be done by these means? Are the politicians aware of the fact that the legislation will be of no value? Are they permitting it to become an issue so they may line up on the side which they think will get them the most votes, devoting time which could well be consumed in consideration of very important legislation?

Should the public be warned legislation abolishing the poll tax will not give anyone assurance that he will be permitted to register and vote or even that he will begin a more favorable position with respect to voting; that politicians who foster legislation for this purpose and those who oppose it are playing politics when they should be doing something else; and to call upon their senators and representatives to get on with the business of winning this war?

HENRY S. BOONE,
Major, Infantry,
Army of the United States.

Miami, Fla.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

White N.Y. Minister Hits Poll Tax in Broadcast

NOV 23 1943

NEW YORK—The pretext that the poll tax is "anything else but a scheme for preventing the colored man from voting" was challenged by the Rev. William C. Kernan, director of the Christian Institute for American Democracy, in a recent radio broadcast entitled "Poll Tax Democracy."

"He (the colored man) has no voice in determining the destiny of the society in which he belongs," said the Rev. Mr. Kernan. "It can act against him, and he can do nothing to correct that action. He has no representation in the Legislature or in the Congress for which he can vote by which to elect any.

"Where is liberty for the man who cannot vote? Where is justice for him who is hounded [illegible] he lacks the power to destroy, because he is deprived of the power to vote its destruction?

"If you believe in the poll tax system, have the courage to say that you do not believe in democracy."

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

Poll Tax Abolitionists Win In Committee

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.
NOV 13 1943

By ROBERT L. RIGGS.
The Courier-Journal Washington Bureau.

Washington, Nov. 12.—The Senate Judiciary Committee voted 12 to 6 today in favor of passage of the anti-poll tax bill, in spite of the certainty that Southern Senators will stage another filibuster when the measure reaches the chamber floor.

Chairman Frederick Van Nuys, Indiana Democrat, said the question when the bill will be taken up by the Senate rests with Senator Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky, the majority leader.

Because of the certainty of a filibuster, Barkley is known to feel that no action should be taken on the measure until after the tax bill and the Commodity Credit Corporation bill have been disposed of. If action is delayed until those two bills have been voted on, the poll tax fight might not get under way until after Christmas.

Passed House Last May.

Van Nuys told reporters today that he dreads the prospect of going through another filibuster, but that he does not want action on the poll tax measure put off until January. The bill which the committee approved is the Marcantonio bill, which went through the House last May by a vote of two to one.

Seven Democrats and five Republican members of the committee voted for approval. The Democrats are McCarran, Nevada; Chandler, Kentucky; Kilgore, West Virginia; Murdock, Utah; McFarland, Arizona; Wheeler, Montana, and Van Nuys. The Republicans are Danaher, Connecticut; Wiley, Wisconsin; Langer, North Dakota; Ferguson, Michigan, and Wherry, Nebraska.

Four Democrats and two Republicans opposed the bill. The Democrats are Hatch, New Mexico; Connally, Texas; O'Mahoney, Wyoming, and Andrews, Florida. The Republicans are Austin, Vermont, and Revercomb, West Virginia.

Legality of Bill Argued.

Most of the committee's two-hour executive session was consumed by arguments presented by O'Mahoney against the constitutionality of the bill, which provides that payment of a poll tax shall not be a prerequisite to voting for President, Vice President, Senators or members of the House of Representatives. Eight Southern States now have such requirements.

O'Mahoney made a motion to substitute for the House bill his proposed constitutional amendment which would do away with the poll tax requirement in federal elections. His motion was defeated, 11 to 7. After the House bill had been approved, O'Mahoney moved that his constitutional amendment be reported out also. The vote on this motion was a tie, 9 to 9. This vote would have killed the motion, but the committee, by an unrecorded vote, agreed to resume consideration of the amendment next Monday.

Chandler Backs O'Mahoney.

Senator Chandler voted with O'Mahoney when the Wyoming Senator sought to substitute his constitutional amendment for the House bill. When O'Mahoney was beaten, 11 to 7, on that effort, Chandler voted to report out the House bill. Chandler again voted with O'Mahoney on the 9-to-9 vote when O'Mahoney sought to get the amendment reported out simultaneously with the bill.

Chandler said the reason he voted for O'Mahoney's constitutional amendment is that he has doubts about the constitutionality of the bill and that he would prefer to meet the poll tax situation by changing the Constitution. However, when the constitutional amendment was voted down by the committee, Chandler said, he did not believe his doubts about the constitutionality of the bill should cause him to vote against it. Such a vote, he said, would be in favor of continuing the disfranchisement of many people.

Chandler Opposes Gag Rule.

If the bill is unconstitutional, Chandler said, the Supreme Court is the proper body to make the decision, and, therefore, he voted to approve the measure.

He will vote for the bill on the floor if the Senate ever gets to that point, Chandler said, but he will not vote to impose cloture, which is a parliamentary device to shut off debate after a certain time and thus break a filibuster.

Chandler followed the same course last year. He voted for the bill in committee and was prepared to vote for it on the floor, but voted against cloture when Barkley sought to invoke it.

Headache for Barkley.

The poll tax fight presents the same headache to Barkley that it did last year. During the filibuster against the bill last November, the Southern Democrats centered most of their fire upon Barkley, threatening to deprive him of his post of majority leader because he brought the bill up. Last year's filibuster lasted seven days and the motion to invoke cloture not only failed to muster the required two-thirds vote, but failed even to get a bare majority, being beaten 41 to 37. Opponents of the bill concede it would pass the Senate if it ever came to a vote, but they are counting upon the unwillingness of many Senators ever to vote for cloture.

Van Nuys Says Measure Will Get Attention

Labor Leaders Warn Against Dixie Filibuster

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
DEC 9 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — A Christmas recess has been voted by members of the anti-poll tax bill council of strategy, it was revealed Thursday. Sponsors of the bill have no intention of interfering with pending tax, subsidy, soldier vote and other war legislation by demanding an immediate showdown, said Sen. Van Nuys (Democrat) of Indiana, a recognized spokesman for the anti-poll tax group.

Van Nuys denied intimidation by threats of filibustering but a strong group of southern senators has laid plans to talk the bill to death, it is rumored. "The people won't stand for interference with vital war measures," Van Nuys declared.

It was decided to call up the bill after the turn of the year and press the fight to a vote, Van Nuys revealed. He will make the motion to call up the bill and added that it was improbable any other important business will be pending before the senate at the time.

Some of the nation's leading labor leaders made remarks last Tuesday to crush any filibuster attempt by adopting a cloture rule. A cry was heard from the southern opposition who expressed the wish for these leaders to attend to their own business.

"The time may come when these same leaders will be exhorting senators to filibuster against repeal of legislation enacted for their benefit," whined Louisiana's Sen. Ellender.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

THIS MORNING



by JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES

Appealing to Georgia to "lead the parade" in abolishing the poll tax, President Edgar Watkins, of the Georgia Electoral Reform League, suggests that a state which has extended the franchise to 18-year-olds might extend it to adults, too. I hope he addresses his appeal direct to Georgia's up-and-coming young governor. In a recent notable address to the New York Southern Society, Ellis Arnall identified himself splendidly with the fine causes of free enterprise and states' rights which are so properly being resurrected. In the days when the New Deal was being dealt he was not in the picture at all, which makes him mercifully free now of that ancient bitterness. Free as Sen. Harry Byrd, of Virginia, is not. If there should indeed develop a national political situation tending to name a Southerner for president, Ellis Arnall is sure of a close scrutiny. He has the friendship of the New Deal crowd even though he is not one of them. He is making friends now with the enlightened business leadership of the country. If he should take a bold stand on the poll tax, lead Georgia to lead the other states away from the tax, there is no telling how far he might find himself going very quickly.

* * *

Because he is talented in Georgia politics, Gov. Arnall naturally hesitates to take his Georgia political life in his hands by coming out for repeal of the tax, especially with his Legislature not meeting again for many months and political snipers free to shoot at him on the fateful issue in all the interval. But an equal talent for national politics should tell the governor that Georgia is no Georgia, this many of his witching hour. If, with a stout stand against federal interference and for states' rights in this and all other issues, he should make himself a whirling dervish for defeat of the tax by his sovereign state itself, the national hit he would make might turn out to be a home run to the White House.

O'MAHONEY LOSES NEW POLL-TAX STEP

New York Times
New York, N. Y.
NOV 16 1943

Senate Committee Again Votes Down Plan Calling for a Constitutional Amendment

SPONSOR TO TRY IT AGAIN

Insists Move to Bar Levy by Legislation Is Probably a Violation of Constitution

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15—By a vote of nine to eight the Senate Committee on the Judiciary declined today to report to the Senate the O'Mahoney resolution which seeks to abolish poll taxes in eight Southern States by means of an amendment to the Constitution.

The committee reported favorably Friday, 12 to 6, the House-adopted Marcantonio bill, which would outlaw poll levies by statute. A tie vote nine to nine at that time prevented the reporting out of the O'Mahoney amendment measure.

Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney of Wyoming, author of the amendment resolution, said that he would try again as some members of the committee, including some of those voting against his measure today, expressed doubt of the constitutionality of the proposed statutory outlawing of the poll tax.

Voting to report the O'Mahoney Resolution were Senators Pat McCarran of Nevada, Carl A. Hatch of New Mexico, Tom Connally of Texas, Albert B. Chandler of Kentucky, Charles O. Andrews of Florida and O'Mahoney, Democrats, and Senators Warren W. Austin of Vermont and Chapman Revercomb of West Virginia, Republicans.

Opposing the resolution were Senators [illegible] Van Nuys, committee chairman; Burley Mc Kilgore of West Virginia, Ernest W. McFarland of Arizona and Burton K. Wheeler of Montana, Democrats, and Senators John A. Danaher of Connecticut, Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin, William Langer of North Dakota, Homer Ferguson of Michigan and Kenneth S. Wherry of Nebraska, Republicans.

Mr. O'Mahoney said that he picked up one vote, but lost two since the committee vote Friday.

The national committee to abolish the poll tax stated that the committee by its action "killed the first stage of the filibuster against the repeal of the poll tax."

The Congress of Industrial Organizations branded the O'Mahoney resolution as "a method of knifing poll tax repeal" and urged all Senators to "smash the fili-

Harvard Law Professor Holds Poll Tax Repeal Is Lawful

Norfolk, Virginia
Journal and Guide
NOV 20 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—"Senators who take refuge in the cause for delaying or opposing passage of the anti-poll tax bill "are doing a disservice to the constitutional doubts" as an ex-Law School, at a recent meeting

of the senate judiciary committee.

The senate group, headed by Senator Frederick Van Nuys, (D. Ind.) upon receiving a favorable report from its subcommittee on abolition of the tax in federal elections, recently delayed hearings for a month and announced that the validity of the poll tax would then be debated on constitutional grounds.

Prof. Dodd indicated that should the Supreme Court rule against the anti-poll tax bill, its adoption by Congress would be an indorsement of the "democratic principle that no American citizen ought to be disfranchised because of property."

LAWYER'S OPINION

In a statement addressed to the judiciary committee, he said that "many constitutional lawyers believe that the Supreme Court would hold that the payment of a poll tax has nothing to do with a person's capacity to vote intelligently and that Congress can so declare.

"Such a pronouncement by Congress," said the college professor, "would be of great value as a demonstration of faith in the principles of democracy even if a constitutional amendment is required to make the pronouncement legal."

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Pointed Points

THE POLL-TAX ISSUE is a vital war issue. It is a thorn in the very heart of the democratic ideal. Even though most people have either heard of the poll tax or literally "talk themselves to death" on this measure, few realize its import. In fact, as a whole, it is one of the least understood of current threats to the war effort. Once the people at large recognize the real danger found in the poll tax, they'll get to work and blot out this evil once and for always.



Mr. Garlington

The poll-tax issue is about to come up for action in the Senate. Yet, the action is not the sole responsibility of Senators. This action depends on the people. The wishes and needs of the people will be satisfied if they are passed on to the law makers via a barrage of postal cards, letters and telegrams. Also phone calls and personal contacts whenever possible.

* * *

TOO MANY PEOPLE leave the job of putting an issue over to the other fellow, or an organization. Since you will be governed by the outcome of such, why leave your welfare in the hand of another? Suppose he is leaving the job for you to do? Then, what's the percentage? Rather risky gamble, eh? So it's up to each individual to learn all he can about respective issues that concern him directly. Then he will know how to go about doing something to rectify conditions. By any means, he will have the consolation of trying to make things better. Even more, he cannot fault himself for the plight he finds himself in. Too, when enough people adopt this attitude, we'll be cooking on the front burner . . . going places . . . in the right direction, and fast.

HERE'S WHY every American deserves to know about the poll tax and do his best to **AXE THE POLL TAX:**

It deprives 10,000,000 citizens—both white and Negro—of the right to vote.

Its existence impairs national unity and the nation's war effort.

The Axis have used and are still using it to discredit the American form of government and embarrass our allies abroad.

Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia are the seven states which boast of the poll tax. Before one can vote in these states, he must pay a poll tax which ranges from one to two dollars a year. This "fee" is cumulative for varying periods in four of the seven states. To make a bad matter worse, all kinds of tricks are used to keep citizens from voting. After 20 years' lapse, for example, not $1.50 but $30 must be paid in Alabama.

Obviously, this "fee" to vote keeps many from the polls. It is common knowledge that many Southerners "live on credit" and have no cash on hand from year-end to year-end. Sharecroppers and company-town miners fall in this class. The average yearly per capita income in Poll Tax states, even in the best years, does not exceed $300. How can such poverty stricken people afford the "luxury of voting?" When they skip a year at the polls, they must not pay the given $1.50. If not paid, "fee" adds up year by year to $3, $4.50, $6, and on and on.

* * *

"A NEGRO ISSUE" is the label many have given the poll tax. But **don't believe it.** The "Solid South" has used the poll tax to keep both the Negro and so-called "white trash" from the polls. The fact remains, however, that the poll tax bears down particularly hard on Negroes because they are the poorest in the South. But, according to the latest statistics **the poll tax disfranchises 6 whites to every 4 Negroes.**

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, Wendell Willkie, and all other responsible leaders have called for the abolition of the poll tax as one of the greatest single barriers to American war unity. **JOIN THIS GROUP** and demand that your Senator give all-out support to H. R. 7 (the Anti-Poll Tax Bill) in this session of Congress.

* * *

SUPPORT THE ANTI-POLL TAX BILL . . . Likewise, **BACK THE ATTACK** by investing all of your spare dimes, quarters, half-dollars and bills in War Bonds and Stamps . . . **Both of these are War Measures.**

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Thoughts On Poll Tax

Topping the list of bills enacted into law by the recent session of the Legislature was House Bill No. 1, by Mr. Gwin, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama to exempt persons from payment of poll tax who served in the military service of the United States during the World War and the present war.

The amendment encountered no opposition and will be voted on at the next general election. It is almost certain of approval, for exemption from poll tax payment was granted to veterans of World War I, and the voters could do no less in extending the same privilege to those who serve in this war.

But this raises a question. Just who will there be to pay a poll tax, after this war is over?

After hostilities cease, hundreds of thousands of boys and men, between 18 and 38 and up to 45 or older, will have been in service and therefore eligible for poll tax exemption.

Add these to the number freed of this suffrage requirement by the last war, plus those over 45 who automatically are not required to pay the tax, and who will be left to continue its payment?

There will be a good many women, of course, and those men or boys rejected for military service.

The number of these two groups, however, will be far less than those who will not be required to pay the fee for voting.

Exemptions will apply to white and Negro veterans alike. There will be no legal bar to the Negro voting. Only custom will prevent his exercising the right of suffrage.

The same will apply to the poorer whites, many of whom did not have the money for poll tax payment or did not think it worth the price to vote.

At any rate, after this war there is likely to be a considerable shift in Alabama's voting strength.

Without legal repeal of the poll tax requirement, the law is going to be nullified in large part by exemptions of war veterans, both white and black. The letter may remain, but in actual fact the substance will be gone.—Huntsville Times.

Abolish the Poll Tax

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

WHEN CONGRESS reconvenes tomorrow, following its extended recess, one of the urgent measures facing it will be the elimination of the poll tax.

The campaign for the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill last spring was one of the high points in the mobilization of the people for action on congressional issues. As a result, the bill was passed overwhelmingly in record time, despite bitter opposition of the polltaxers.

The measure is now in the hands of the Senate Judiciary Committee, headed by Senator Frederick Van Nuys of Indiana.

Last year a similar measure was also passed by the House. Polltaxers in the Senate attempted to bottle it up in the Judiciary Committee. A bitter, determined fight by Senator George W. Norris, backed by the people, forced it out of the Judiciary Committee. A filibuster by polltaxers killed it on the Senate floor.

Undoubtedly, these Senate polltaxers will try to delay or kill the measure in committee once more.

The polltaxers can be defeated by a determined mass fight to force the measure out of committee without delay and to demand of the Senators that they invoke cloture, or limitation of debate, in order to block a filibuster.

There is a wide movement of labor, farmers, middle class behind the fight against the poll tax. That movement needs to get going at once. It has the backing of the people in every state.

Letters To Senators Urge Cloture On Poll Tax Talk

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — Those letters from the Senators were in the main short and pithy. One of them, for instance, which came from Tennessee, read: "Are you ready for peace —abolish the poll tax." Another letter, from Kentucky, said: "The poll tax has got to be abolished. Do your part in getting this done. Make this country a better place to live in."

Another letter, from Alaabma, addressed to Senator Lister Hill, said: "Across a thousand miles, let our men hear that the poll tax has been abolished.

Another letter also addressed to Senator Hill said: "Our service men rejoice when they hear there is no more poll tax in America."

The letters, which were unsolicited by the organization, came as a result of efforts of one or two

500 letters addressed to their Senators from 16 states, the majority of them from the 8 poll tax states, urging the Senators to vote to limit debate to end a filibuster against the anti-poll tax bill.

Chairman of the National Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs of Alpha Kappa Alpha, has announced receipt of more than

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

THE ARGUMENT AGAINST POLL TAX

An impressive pamphlet has been issued by the National Committee to abolish the poll tax. It is a studied handbook in the interest of poll tax repeal, and is entitled, "Why the poll tax is a national issue." It presents some arguments against the poll tax as a voting requirement that are hard to refute, but still is unconvincing in its contention that abolition ought to be by the Federal Government instead of by the States.

One of the chief arguments advanced in favor of poll tax removal will come as something of a surprise to the poll tax States, for there is charged to poll tax voting restrictions a condition in which the South has long taken pride. It is asserted, for example, that the poll tax and the restricted electorate tends to remove competition for congressional seats. Men in the poll tax States continue to be reelected year after year, and over and over in many cases without even having any opposition. This, it is asserted, makes such men advance to places of great importance and responsibility through committee assignments and seniority and gives them undue influence upon national affairs.

It is undoubtedly true that representatives and senators from the so-called poll tax States of the South occupy important places in Congress, but it is due to the wise practice of the voters in these States of keeping a good man in Congress so that he increases his usefulness through achieving big committee chairmanship. If the poll tax is responsible for the position of influence and importance that the men of the South now occupy in Congress it is, from the Southern viewpoint, an unanswerable argument in favor of its retention.

But there are other arguments advanced against the poll tax that are not so easily disposed of. The case is not stated with complete honesty but much is made of the fact that in 1942 more votes were cast for one representative in Congress from Chicago than were cast for 50 listed congressmen from poll tax States. This is not an accurate statement because the general election instead of primary election figures are used, and as everyone knows general elections are merely perfunctory in the South. The general election vote for Newsome in the Ninth Alabama District in 1942, for example, is given at 9,209, whereas 34,143 votes were cast in the primary in which Mr. Newsome was chosen. It is sought to make a point of the small percentage of the population represented by the vote. In some of the Southern districts the vote is given as less than one per cent of the population, and in the fifty Southern districts cited the vote in none of them is more than four per cent of the population. This is compared with a national average of 43 per cent in the non-poll tax paying States.

If the purpose of abolishing the poll tax is to increase the voting strength and give to the "poor who cannot pay the poll tax" a chance to express themselves, the increase has not been very impressive in the States which have abolished the tax of their own accord. North Carolina, according to the figures, has gotten up to nine per cent of its population to the polls; Florida has brought five per cent, but Louisiana is still four per cent in spite of getting rid of the poll tax several years ago.

While there are many reasons why a poll tax should not be collected, thoughtful men are not impressed by assertions that the voting privilege ought to be given to everybody without regard to qualifications. The makers of the original Constitution wisely provided that the voting qualifications of citizens should be fixed by the States, and time has shown that this is a wise provision. Originally all of the States levied a poll tax requirement, or made the ownership of property a requisite for voting, but as the years passed these requirements have become less popular and necessary, and have been gradually modified or abolished. But in all cases the changes have been made through State action and it is a definite invasion of a State right to have the movement now under way in Congress to abolish by Federal legislative fiat a requirement which eight of the States have seen fit to continue as a part of their suffrage requirements.

There are many who think the time has come to modify or abolish the poll tax, but these men are still convinced that it is a subject for State action and not for action by the Federal Government.

H K 7 Post
Washington, D. C.

Emotions have been so violently aroused on the poll tax that most of the arguments emanating from the champions of Federal legislation to abolish it have become demagogic. It is said that the poll tax equals disfranchisement. Of course, it equals nothing of the sort. The poll tax is merely a small payment for the privilege of voting which is burdensome only in the four cases where it is cumulative, though even in those cases there is [illegible]ment which at the top is less than $50. Those who feel that the Federal Government has no mandate in the poll-tax issue are accused, as one of our correspondents accused this newspaper the other day, of a "sneak atack on democracy." This is absurd. The fact that eight States still charge a poll tax is in no way a derogation of our system of representative democracy. It would be only a derogation of a system of pure democracy, i. e., a town meeting. John F. Finerty of the American Civil Liberties Union says that the poll tax violates the constitutional guaranty of a republican form of government. But a republic is a state in which the sovereign power resides with the electorate without reference to any basis of election. The red herring of racism is even dragged across this contentious dispute. The poll tax, it is said, is discriminatory against the Negroes, though the entire population of the poll-tax States must pay the poll tax. It is called by the unthinking a denial of citizenship, as if women before they got the vote were non-citizens. Finally, those who question the validity of Federal interference are stigmatized as supporters of the poll tax.

All these charges have been flung from time to time at this newspaper because it has hitherto opposed Federal action to end the poll tax as a violation of the Constitution. Now they are appearing again in our mailbag as H. R. 7 is readied for Senate debate. It may serve to clarify our own position if we reiterate as flatly and as categorically as we can that we are opposed to the poll tax. No true believer in progressive democracy could take any other stand. He should always be in the van in the removal of obstacles to participation in self-government. But we are, first and foremost, believers in the attainment of necessary reforms by constitutional means. For our respect for our Constitution depends that liberty of the individual which is our most treasured possession. And a reading of the new arguments presented before the Senate Judiciary Committee leaves us still convinced that Federal legislation on the poll tax would be unconstitutional. The plain language of our fundamental law says that States may impose poll taxes on voters for Federal office if poll taxes are also prerequisite in voting in those States for members of the State House of Representatives. The poll tax, in other words, is strictly a State affair.

To be sure, this interpretation is debated by jurists themselves. Even the proponents of the constitutionality of Federal action admit that the constitutional issue is by no means clear. For instance, Arthur Garfield Hays, counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union, qualifies a request for support of H. R. 7 with the statement "although there is a substantial argument on the other side." Should these doubters press for Federal action regardless? We think not. On the contrary, any group which is wedded to the preservation of civil liberties should be in the lead against any attempt to put a strain on the palladium of those civil liberties. Pressure upon the Legislature to take action which would be a strain on the Constitution is the surest way of breaking the Constitution. What once was sloppy practice has become in the emotional stress of the times dangerous doctrine. We know that in its addiction to it the Civil Liberties Union is in the distinguished company of the President. Mr. Roosevelt is a reformer in a hurry who is impatient of judicial restraints. In 1935 he sought to wish through the Guffey coal bill by urging that Congress should not "permit doubts as to constitutionality, however reasonable, to block the suggested legislation." This was nothing but Constitution-be-damned philosophy. It has come back to plague the President himself. The last occasion occurred over the congressional decision to stop the salaries of specific members of the executive department which Mr. Roosevelt denounced as unconstitutional. Just as this newspaper denounced the President for his Constitution-be-damned philosophy, so we denounced Congress for its unconstitutional legislation. Our attitude toward the poll-tax debate is all of a piece with this background.

There is a way out for the true reformer which does not involve any sacrifice of conscience. That is the way of the constitutional amendment. Already Senator O'Mahoney has introduced a joint resolution for an amendment to the Constitution reading: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of

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temper and dissension and confusion which H. R. 7 is producing in the midst of what should be an all-consuming war. Nor for other reasons will H. R. 7 qualify "10 million people" to vote, or anything like that number. The poll-tax States have other voting qualifications at their disposal as well as the poll tax. And they will certainly fortify them on the passage of H. R. 7, as Senator Bilbo made plain last Friday. But we would most emphasize that the way of the constitutional amendment is the safest method of approach. These repeated challenges to constitutional government are becoming a pernicious habit. The habit is fraught with menace in a world in which constitutional forms are being overturned. It is well to remember that the Constitution is the only true safeguard of the minority rights which the proponents of H. R. 7 assert so vociferously they are championing.

NOV 20 1943

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

If the Anti-Poll Tax Bill Is Communistic

NOV 5 1943

Senators EASTLAND of Mississippi and McCLELLAN of Arkansas say that the bill to eliminate the poll tax as a prerequisite for voting for Representatives, Senators and Presidents is principally a Communist project. An anti-poll tax bill was passed by the House October 21, 1942, by the overwhelming majority of 252 votes to 84. At the Congressional elections the following month, the people had a chance to change the whole complexion of the House and did change it considerably but not with reference to the poll tax. The new House last May adopted an anti-poll tax bill by 265 votes to 110. The 1942 bill had a majority of votes in the Senate. It could only be killed in the upper house by the undemocratic device of filibuster. The House's bill of last spring is now before the Senate, has the 12-to-6 approval of the Senate Judiciary Committee and again a majority of votes in the Senate. The bill's opponents acknowledge this by preparing another filibuster.

NOV 7 1943

In other words, if Messrs. EASTLAND and McCLELLAN are right, then the people of this country and majorities of both houses of Congress are Communist-inspired. What a tired old lie!

Leading Lawyers Say Anti-Poll Tax Bill Constitutional

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

6 of 10 Signers from Poll Tax States;
Supreme Court Justice Jackson Quoted

WASHINGTON — A memorandum signed by ten of the nation's leading lawyers, six of them from poll-tax States, holding that the anti-poll tax bill now pending in Congress is constitutional was published last week by the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax.

OCT 9 1943

The statement was issued in reply to some Congressmen who have sidestepped the poll tax issue by contending that Congress should not abolish the tax except through a constitutional amendment.

Lawyers signing the memorandum include:

Constitutional, These Say

George G. Battle of North Carolina and Virginia and long a leading member of the New York Bar; Walton Hamilton of Tennessee, now professor of constitutional law at Yale;

Myers McDougal of Mississippi, also of the Yale law school; Leon Greene, of Louisiana and Texas, now dean of Northwestern University law school;

Robert K. Wattach and M. T. Van Hecke, dean and ex-dean of the University of North Carolina; Lloyd K. Garrison, dean, and Charles Bunn, both of the Wisconsin law school;

Walter Gellhorn of the Columbia University law school and Edwin Borchard of the Yale University law school.

Other Authorities Quoted

They quoted a recent concurring opinion by Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson on State exclusion of indigent citizens in which he declared:

"We should say now, and in no uncertain terms, that a man's mere property status, without more, cannot be used by a State to test, qualify or limit his rights as a citizen of the United States . . . .

"The mere state of being without funds is a neutral fact — constitutionally an irrelevancy like race, creed or color."

Murray Demands Action

OCT 9 1943

Brant contended that Congress had frequently acted to prevent corruption in Federal elections and that the poll tax was "an agency of wholesale corruption, employed by political machines to debauch and control both Federal and State elections."

President Philip Murray of the CIO, meantime, in a letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee, appealed for prompt action on the bill, branding the poll tax a "defeat in our democracy" which Axis propaganda is full exploiting—"an obstacle to our military efforts."

Poll Tax Retention Favored By Majority In States Levying It

Birmingham News

53 Per Cent Indicate Okeh On Requirement In Public Opinion Poll

BY GEORGE GALLUP
Director, American Institute of Public Opinion

PRINCETON, N. J.—Like federal anti-lynching legislation, anti-poll tax bills are virtually a congressional perennial.

All but a handful of congressmen from the eight Southern states which require payment of a poll tax as a prerequisite to voting have opposed passage of the bill. It was a threat of filibuster in the Senate which kept shelved an anti-poll tax bill passed during the last session by the House with a vote of 265 to 110.

In order to discover whether the eligible voters of the poll tax states want the tax repealed or left in force, the Institute has conducted a survey in those states on the following question:

"Do you think the people in your state should have to continue paying a poll tax in order to vote?"

A similar survey was conducted in 1941. A comparison reveals virtually no change in attitude since then among regular voters who have paid their poll taxes. The majority favor keeping the poll tax requirement.

Here are the results of the two surveys:

Eligible Voters in Poll Tax States	Today	1941
Favor Retaining Poll Tax	53%	53%
Favor Abolishing Poll Tax	37	35
No Opinion	10	12

The eight states which require payment of poll taxes are Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas and Texas. The Tennessee Legislature abolished the poll tax law in February, but the State Supreme Court overruled its action and the tax remains in effect.

Stiff voting requirements, poll taxes and the like are not a peculiar Southern institution. In the early days in this country, only people who owned property could vote. At one period in United States colonial history, only one person in 10 was eligible to vote in the city of Philadelphia, for example.

The poll tax system in the South is of comparatively recent origin, going back only to the period between 1880 and the early 1900s. The poll taxes were instituted at that time chiefly as a means of combating the popularity of the Populist party among the poor whites of the South.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Anti-Poll Tax Bill Is Ready For Senate Vote

Action Expected To Come Up On Monday, Nov. 8

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON—(A N P) — The senate judiciary committee should now be prepared to vote on reporting the anti-poll tax bill to the floor, was the opinion of Chairman Frederick D. Van Nuys (D) of Indiana expressed last week following the last of the committee hearings on the question of constitutionality. He promised them that the vote would be invited on Monday, Nov. 8.

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The committee heard only one witness against the constitutionality of the bill last Tuesday although Sen. Tom Connolly, leading the Warren, attorney general in the Wilson administration and writer on law subjects of some renown.

TWO ADMISSIONS

Prodded by Sen. John A. Danaher (R) of Conn., and Abe Murdock (D) of Utah, the aging witness made two admissions which proponents of the legislation immediately hailed as contributions for their side.

Reading from that section of the Soldier Vote Bill of 1942 which outlawed the poll tax as a requirement before soldiers could vote, Sen. Murdock drew the admission that that was within the power of congress to do. Warren saw it as an extension of the "war powers" and said he did not know how far such a thing might go.

Sen. Murdock was attempting to show that if the congress could do away with the poll tax in that instance, that is certainly had the power o do it with regard to the citizenry as a whole.

CITE CONSTITUTION

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Prior to this, however, Sen. Danaher referred the witness to Section 2 of the 14th amendment and asked him whether or not he thought a possible approach to the question might not be made through a reduction of the representation of the eight poll tax states based upon the extent to which otherwise eligible persons are denied the privilege of voting. "Unquestionably" was the Warren reply. The section reads in part:

"Representatives shall be apportioned among the several states according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each state... But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for president and vice president of the United States, representatives in congress...etc, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such state...in any way abridged...the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens...

A spokesman for the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax similar legislation across, but considered that the reduction effort was useless. Perry method would be a solution to the problem, but thought it would bring on a "more difficult fight." She said to the rules committee which committee was not rejecting line southerners control. idea, but preferred to stick to The poll tax committee anxiously the fight on the HR 7. insists that if the house-approved Leslie Perry, legislative representative for the NAACP, recalled bill, would be sent that Rep. Tinkham had many

CONNOLLY NON-COMMITTAL

Sen. Connolly was asked to comment on Warren's view with regard to reduction in representation but he refused. "He (meaning Warren) didn't go into the question," he said. Later, however, he

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Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

No Senate Action Taken Yet on Anti-Poll Tax Bill

NOV 17 1943

Apathetic Attitude Attributed to Failure of Voters to Put Pressure on Senators

WASHINGTON

The Marcantonio bill to abolish the poll tax as a prerequisite to voting in Federal elections remained dormant on the Senate calendar throughout last week, although a motion for its consideration has been in order ever since November 16.

By specious arguments opponents of the measure have sought to jockey proponents of the measure into the position of impeding the war effort if they should bring up the bill at this time.

A group of Southern Senators have pledged themselves to block consideration of the measure by resort to a filibuster which would temporarily block important war legislation.

More Pressure Needed

The bill has no ardent champion in the Senate. The apathetic attitude of Senators toward the measure is due in large part to lack of an insistent demand among their constituents for its passage.

A Senator friendly to the measure indicated that he had received only three or four letters from voters in his State urging passage of the anti-poll tax bill.

If the measure is to be passed at this session of Congress, colored people, labor leaders, newspapers and liberal groups supporting it will have to exert a great deal more pressure than is now being brought to bear upon Senators.

Amendment Plan Killed

By a vote of 9 to 8 the Senate Judiciary Committee on November 15 declined to report to the Senate the O'Mahoney resolution which seeks to abolish poll taxes in eight Southern States by means of an amendment to the Constitution.

The committee reported favorably on November 12 the House-adopted Marcantonio bill, which would outlaw the poll levies by statute. A tie vote of 9 to 9 at that time prevented the reporting out of the O'Mahoney amendment measure.

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Poll-Tax Bill

Post

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By Mark [illegible]van

Washington, D. C.

Fundamental Issue

THE PRESENT status in the Senate of the proposal to outlaw the poll tax as a qualification for voting is this: The bill to abolish it by act of Congress was reported this week by the Senate Judiciary Committee to the Senate floor and can be called up at any time.

Proponents of the measure say they will call it up soon. When called up it will lead to earnest debate. The issue affects the American structure of government more profoundly than any other proposal before this or any recent Congress. There is no call upon the American public more urgent than that this issue be understood at the time when action upon it is imminent.

The poll-tax, as a qualification for voting, is an exercise of the functions of State governments. So is every other qualification for voting, everywhere. Qualifications requiring that the voter must have lived in the State a certain length of time, that he must be a citizen, that if of alien birth he must have been naturalized a certain length of time, that he must be able to read and write—all these and every other one of the various qualifications in different States—all are prescribed by State governments. None are prescribed by the Federal Government at Washington. Fixing qualifications for voting is an exclusive function of the States. It is the most fundamental of their functions—for it is an attribute of their very existence as units of government.

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THE PRESENT proposal would take part of this function away from the States. It would forbid any State to require payment of a poll tax as a requirement for voting in any election to choose Federal officials (President, Vice President, members of Congress).

If Congress should take this step, if it should enact the poll-tax bill, it would by that act establish a principle and a precedent. The principle and precedent would be that Congress has a right to determine voting qualifications, that Congress can override qualifications fixed by States. By that principle and precedent, if now established, Congress could change any voting qualification in any State. It could forbid any of the familiar qualifications now widely practiced, having to do with length of residence and the like. It would go further than merely forbid qualifications set up by the States—it could set up and enforce new qualifications of its own.

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The proposal soon to be debated by the Senate is of concern not merely to the small number of States, eight, which still have the poll-tax requirement. It is of concern to every State, to every citizen. It is of the deepest possible concern to persons who have at heart the preservation of the American structure of government.

This proposal to take from the States part of a function now exercised exclusively by them, comes at a time when there is already serious anxiety about the extent to which the Federal Government, during the past few years, has intruded upon functions of the States. The extent of the Federal absorption of functions of government can be suggested by two figures. In the State of Ohio, all the functions of government exercised by the State are carried on by 22,000 State employes. But in the same State the number of Federal employes—exercising Federal functions of government and deriving their authority from Washington—is 90,000.

THE ISSUE here set forth is so fundamental that [illegible] other aspect of the poll tax measure is comparable. That the poll tax is undesirable is now generally conceded. Formerly practiced in many States. it is being gradually wiped out by the States themselves. It was wiped out by Florida in 1937, by Pennsylvania in 1933, by Louisiana in 1932, by Massachusetts in 1892. In two of the States still retaining it, Tennessee and Arkansas, active movements to repeal it are under way.

To help eliminate rancour from the coming debate, one point should be understood. Because there are large Negro populations in the eight States, all Southern, which still have the poll tax, it frequently is argued that the poll tax discriminates against Negroes. This impression is widespread and has been cultivated. The impression is utterly wrong. The poll tax applies to white exactly the same as to Negroes. There are in some Southern States devices, especially as respects primary elections, which do discriminate against Negroes. But the poll tax makes no such discrimination. Argument against it can fairly be based on many grounds—but not on the grounds of discrimination between whites and Negroes. In the coming debate, there is no more occasion to use the word Negro than to use the word Swede, or Italian or Greek.

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Public Debate on Poll Tax Bill Set for Oct. 25

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Senate Judiciary Sub-Committee Gives Blessing to Measure

DECIDE QUESTION OF ITS VALIDITY

Four-Week Postponement Hit by Proponents of Bill

Senate proponents and opponents of the bill (H.R.7) to abolish the poll-tax as a prerequisite to voting in Federal elections agreed last Monday to throw open to public debate before the Senate Judiciary Committee the question of whether Congress has the constitutional power to [illegible] such legislation.

DEC 2 1943

Senator Frederick Van Nuys, committee chairman, announced the debate would be held four weeks from October 25.

The action was taken on a motion by Senator Carl A. Hatch, Democrat, of New Mexico, after a judiciary sub-committee had reported the House-approved bill by a vote of 3-2.

Debate Constitutionality

"The constitutionality question only will be presented," said Senator Van Nuys. "We will try to eliminate any argument on policy."

He also said Attorney General Francis Biddle will be invited to give his views to the committee on the constitutionality of the measure. It was pointed out that if Attorney General Biddle offered his opinion, the Administration would be put on record on the controversial question.

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Mr. Biddle has been asked to give his views previously and has declined and it was doubted whether he would accept this time.

Passed by House in May

Mrs. Katherine Shryver, executive secretary of the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, said:

"This is the first step in final Senate approval of the bill which was passed by the House of Representatives by a vote of [illegible] 110 on May 25.

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"This is a war measure," she said, "when success for our boys in battle is a matter of minutes and hours, it is particularly unfortunate to have Congress delay for a whole month in bringing up a bill that will give 10 million Americans the right to vote."

OCT 2 1943

Constitutional Validity Questioned

OCT 23 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Novel Procedure May Throw Issue Into The Courts

RICHMOND, Va. — Anti-poll tax elements in the state resorted to an hitherto unused procedure to attack its constitutionality this week in the form of a challenge upon the constitutionality of the state's apportionment of its Congressional districts.

This challenge was contained in a declaration of candidacy for Congressman-at-large filed by Henry L. Saunders of Ashland, who asserted that because the tax had had the effect of depriving half of the citizens of the right to vote, Virginia's [illegible] portionment [illegible] Congressional district [illegible] was void.

Mr. Saunders, whose notice of intention to become a candidate was filed with Secretary of the Commonwealth Ralph E. Wilkins, has the backing of both AFL and CIO labor groups, as well as the Southern and Virginia Electoral Reform Leagues, organizations which have as goals elimination of the poll tax as a prerequisite to voting.

THE PETITION

In his petition, the prospective candidate asserted:

That the Virginia poll tax has had the effect of abridging the right to vote of more than 50 per cent of the citizens, contrary to Section 2 of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution, and that therefore, the present apportionment is void.

That, on the basis of the above contentions and further provisions of the Constitution, Virginia is not entitled to more than nine Congressional districts.

THE PROBABLE EFFECT

If sustained in the courts, the [illegible] qualified votes and the necessary affidavits.

If his notice [illegible] rejected by the [illegible] Commonwealth, that rejection apparently will become the basis of taking the issue to the courts for a ruling.

In his notice, Saunders sets forth that he is qualified to become a candidate, and includes the necessary petitions signed by 250 qualified votes and the nec-

Under federal statute, Virginia is apportioned nine Congressional representatives elected by the whole number of persons in the state at the time of enactment (November 15, 1941). The code of Virginia apportions the state into nine Congressional districts.

tatives and [illegible] be elected by the [illegible] tricts.

[illegible] the effect of throwing all of Virginia's 1944 Congressional elections to a state-wide basis.

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The Poll Tax Again

When the anti-poll-tax resolution was about to be reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee, a resolution favoring a constitutional amendment prohibiting a poll tax, as a prerequisite for voting in a federal election, was urged as a substitute.

The introduction of this proposal amounts to an extension of the threatened filibuster, for there is no possibility in the world of abolishing the poll tax through constitutional amendment in any reasonable time.

The first motion to substitute the amendment for the bill failed of passage, but the danger is not past. It is still important to commit your Senator to voting for cloture on this measure. And in those cases where Senators cannot agree to go along on the cloture vote for immediate political reasons, it is imperative that they be persuaded against participating in the impending filibuster.

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Poll Tax as Vote Test Held Unconstitutional.

By A. Bronfman.

Van Evrie Kilpatrick, challenging in the World-Telegram of Sept. 2, Vice President Wallace's declaration in his Detroit speech "that we cannot [illegible] the denial of the right to vote for millions of our own people," makes the following statement:

"If the Vice President refers to the Negroes in the Southern states, as he doubtless does, then he is continuing a most unfortunate controversy in challenging an effort to maintain a higher standard of voting through the poll tax.'

Who, we ask Mr. Kilpatrick (who is evidently sincere), is to decide what is and what is not a "higher standard of voting?" The very essence of democracy is the right of the people to choose their lawmakers, and the very essence of that right, in turn, is the right of all (with emphasis on all) citizens, regardless of their "grade of intelligence," race, creed, color or station in life, and without any restrictions whatsoever, to express their will at the polls.

If democracy would be what Mr. Kilpatrick would have us believe it is then democracy would not be worth the piece of paper the word "democracy" could be inscribed on. But it is not. The poll tax is unconstitutional and as such must—and will—be abolished.

Brooklyn.

Poll Tax Bill

Bankhead Also Among 16 Southern Senators United To Smother It

Filibuster Possible

Measure Expected To Be Reported By Committee Some Time This Week

Senator Lister Hill, of Montgomery, Democratic whip in the United States Senate, headed a group of Southern senators who joined forces yesterday to beat down a new poll tax bill which is expected to come out of committee this week.

An Associated Press dispatch from Washington said 16 senators from Southern States had joined in a movement "directed against consideration of a bill to outlaw the collection of state poll taxes as a prerequisite to voting in Federal elections."



Senator Hill

Also on the list was the name of Senator John H. Bankhead. Both Hill and Bankhead helped to defeat a similar bill which came up last Winter.

The new poll tax bill, according to the press service dispatch, is now before the Senate judiciary committee and will, in all probability, be reported out Friday.

No Time for Issue

Senator Connally, of Texas, who was quoted as spokesman for the Southern group, said he and his colleagues were unanimous in the belief that controversial, partisan legislation should be avoided at this time.

Besides Connally and Alabama's two senators the group opposing the bill included Byrd of Virginia, O'Daniel, of Texas; Bilbo and Eastland, Mississippi; McKellar and Stewart, Tennessee; Caraway and McClellan, Arkansas; Smith and Maybank, South Carolina; Overton and Ellender, Louisiana, and Andrews, Florida.



Sen Bankhead

Senator Connally was quoted as saying that George [illegible] Russell, of Georgia, and Glass, of Virginia, were in sympathy with the move but were unable to attend the informal session at which strategy was planned. Senator Pepper, of Florida, it was assumed, would support the bill.

Filibuster Looms

No mention appeared in Connally's interview of a filibuster, but both Hill and Bankhead were prepared last Winter to engage in a filibuster if necessary to defeat the invasion of the prerogative of Southern States to frame their own election laws.

The argument was advanced then that with the [illegible] at war it was ill-fortune to bring up an issue that contained so much bitterness. The argument, however, did not deter certain new deal senators and South-haters from forcing the issue. The bill was abandoned only when it became apparent that the Southern senators meant business when they threatened a filibuster.

Alabama CIO Leaders Insist Poll Tax Go

Daily Worker

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Nov. 16.—Fifteen presidents and officers of CIO steel and [illegible] local unions have addressed a message to United States Senators Lister Hill and John Bankhead, demanding the passage of the anti-poll tax bill sponsored by Representative Vito Marcantonio.

All the signers of the message are members of a special labor legislative committees, which met in Montgomery, Ala., during the sessions of the state legislature.

The statement, which represents tens of thousands of steel workers and iron ore miners was released by Howard Mooney, international representative of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union, and chairman of the committee.

"The unconstitutional and undemocratic poll tax laws are against the interests of the people," the trade union leaders declare. "The poll tax keeps the masses of people from voting and denies them representation in the Halls of Congress." The statement calls attention to the fact that while "Southern men are stationed on battlefronts all over the world, fighting against fascist dictatorship, at home in seven Southern states, the majority of Southern citizens are denied the most fundamental principle of democracy, the right to vote."

STATEMENT SIGNERS

The statement is signed by the following local union officers:

United Steelworkers of America: Chester Ray, president, Local 1131; Frank Crunk, vice-president, Local 1597; J. J. Lindsay, recording secretary, Local 1131; George T. Baker, financial secretary, Local 1489; J. D. Lewis, Local 1013.

International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers: Robert Martin, president, Local 123; Vasco Clark, president, Local 639; James Atkinson, trustee, Local 121; J. E. Smithson, trustee, Local 556; J. L. Noland, secretary, Local 556; Howard Mooney, president, Red Ore Council; John Butler, president, Local 121; J. P. Mooney, business agent, Raimund - Spaulding locals; Stanley Hudnall.

"It is well known that if a vote were taken in the Senate the bill would [illegible] Mr. Mooney stated. "That is why opponents of the bill are going all-out to keep the bill off the floor of the Senate, and it is now pigeon-holed by the Senate Judiciary Committee. Senator Bilbo has threatened to filibuster for 15 months if the bill should come to the floor. In that case, the application of democratic principle requires that the Senate should invoke cloture, or a limitation on debate. We hope that Alabama's senators will support the move for cloture as well as vote in favor of the bill."

Post
Washington, D. C
Poll Tax

I want to commend your editorial in regard to HR 7 in The Post of Saturday, November 20.

We should not close our eyes to the significance of the undoubted feeling throughout the South from Texas to Virginia that the Southern people are being politically harassed as a means of gratifying groups of voters in the metropolitan areas—not only the Negroes but others. This feeling should not be fed by such legislative controversies as that involved in the anti-poll tax movement.

We are a big country, more than 130 million people, and if we are to have a union which is united not in legalism but in sympathy, we will have to reconcile ourselves to letting the people of the various States and sections work out their own problems in their own way. Any other policy will be disastrous, not only to the interests of the particular groups who are responsible for this agitation, but to the country as a whole, and it is by no means too soon to begin to order our conduct accordingly.

DEETS PICKETT.

Washington, Nov. 21.

This subscriber, being wholly in accord with your attitude on the poll tax, would like to suggest a comparison whose cold figures might cool the heated brows of some outraged partisans for the "10 million disfranchised Americans." What is the amount of this disputed tax in the various States? What is the average amount of union dues assessed in these States? How many of the disfranchised, i.e., those unable to pay the poll tax, are now paying union dues? CAF-4.

Washington, Nov. 20.

You probably are feeling pretty well sunk after reading the letters of two irate writers in your paper, those of John P. Davis of Washington and Elizabeth W. Steptoe of Charlottesville, both of whom are in a frenzy because you do not seem to approve of the annual attempt by certain politicians to meddle in sundry rights which the Constitution grants to the States, by which I refer to the poll tax. Behind this attempt we have, of course, an Administration which seeks to destroy all States rights. The qualifications for voting are a matter which properly belongs to the voters of each State to settle in a manner which suits the needs of that State, and the high moral indignation evinced by some members of Congress in this matter could be expended to greater purpose if they would consider, let us say, the sale of the country to John Lewis for $500,000.

I am most thankful that some States are still interested in trying to prevent their most ignorant groups from marking a ballot. Does anyone think that those States which have no poll tax elect a better grade of Senator or Representative than those who have such a tax? What we need to do, if we open to him, a man whose industry to vote depends upon something—say $100, right to vote. Of course, such a qualification as I want a higher grade of Congress, is to cut down the number of voters by [illegible] have, and not likely to vote with any degree of intelligence. Anyone can, of course, bleed extensively when he can no longer appeal to and sway blocks demand a property qualification for pick out exceptions, in the way of longer appeal all voters. Let no man vote who hard luck, etc., but on the whole, of the most ignorant by his hill-billy campaigns and the Old Glory, but it just might keep those who want that class of politician out of office politicians; his heart will

Hill Heads Bloc To Kill

Montgomery, Ala.

Advertiser

The Record of Your Senators on Poll Tax Bill Is Recorded Here

Call
Kansas City: Mo

Last year, the anti-poll tax bill was defeated in the Senate by a filibuster. The crucial vote was the one in which the Senators refused to break the filibuster. A two-thirds vote for "cloture" is necessary to accomplish this.

Listed below is the record on this vote of the present members of the Senate. Of the total of 96, 39 voted for cloture; 39 voted against it; 6 did not vote; 12 were not then in the Senate.

Look at the record of your own two Senators. They are home now. Get them to pledge to vote for cloture when H. R. 7, the Marcantonio bill to abolish the poll tax comes up; to vote against all amendments to H. R. 7; to vote for the passage of H. R. 7.

Don't depend on what they did last year. Just arm yourself with that, and with the facts about the poll tax, and make sure they are pledged for this year too.

ALABAMA: Bankhead, against; Hill, against.

ARIZONA: Hayden, against; McFarland, not voting.

ARKANSAS: Caraway, against; McClellan, absent.

CALIFORNIA: Johnson, against; Downey, FOR.

COLORADO: Johnson, FOR; Millikin, FOR.

CONNECTICUT: Maloney, FOR; Danaher, FOR.

DELAWARE: Tunnell, FOR; Buck, absent.

FLORIDA: Andrews, against; Pepper, FOR.

GEORGIA: George, against; Russell, against.

IDAHO: Clark, against; Thomas, against.

ILLINOIS: Lucas, against; Brooks, FOR.

INDIANA: Van Nuys, FOR; Willis, FOR.

IOWA: Gillette, against; Wilson, absent.

KANSAS: Capper, FOR; Reed, FOR.

KENTUCKY: Barkley, FOR; Chandler, against.

LOUISIANA: Overton, against; Ellender, against.

MAINE: White, against; Brewster, FOR.

MARYLAND: Tydings, FOR; Radcliffe, against.

MASSACHUSETTS: Walsh, FOR; Lodge, FOR.

MICHIGAN: Vandenberg, FOR; Ferguson, absent.

MINNESOTA: Shipstead, against; Ball, not voting.

MISSISSIPPI: Bilbo, against; Eastland, absent.

MISSOURI: Clark, FOR; Truman, FOR.

MONTANA: Wheeler, against; Murray, FOR.

NEBRASKA: Butler, FOR; Wherry, absent.

NEVADA: McCarren, FOR; Scrugham, absent.

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Bridges, not voting; Tobey, FOR.

NEW JERSEY: Barbour, FOR; Hawkes, absent.

NEW MEXICO: Hatch, not voting; Chavez, against.

NEW YORK: Wagner, FOR; Mead, FOR.

NORTH CAROLINA: Bailey, against; Reynolds, not voting.

NORTH DAKOTA: Nye, against Langer, against.

OHIO: Taft, FOR; Burton, FOR.

OKLAHOMA: Thomas, FOR; Moore, absent.

OREGON: McNary, against; Holman, against.

PENNSYLVANIA: Davis, FOR; Guffey, FOR.

RHODE ISLAND: Gerry, against; Green, FOR.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Smith, against; Maybank, against.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Gurney, not voting; Bushfield, absent.

TENNESSEE: McKellar, against; Stewart, against.

TEXAS: Connally, against; O'Daniel, against.

UTAH: Thomas, FOR; Murdock: FOR.

VERMONT: Austin: against; Aiken, against.

VIRGINIA: Glass, against; Byrd, against.

WASHINGTON: Bone, FOR; Wallgren, FOR.

WEST VIRGINIA: Kilgore, FOR; Revercomb, absent.

WISCONSIN: LaFollette, FOR; Wiley, FOR.

WYOMING: O'Mahoney, against; Robertson, absent.

Poll Tax Vote Is Due Friday

PM
New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9.—After months of stalling and delay that has played into the hands of the Southern [illegible] filibusters, the Senate Judiciary Committee is committed to a vote Friday on the bill to outlaw the poll tax as a requisite to voting in Federal elections.

Chairman Frederick Van Nuys (D., Ind.) announced the Committee would meet at 10 a.m. Friday for final action on the measure and would stay in session until the vote is taken. Favorable action is expected as the Committee approved the same bill by a 2-1 vote last year.

This will put the controversial measure before the Senate for the real test. Last year, despite lip-service by almost the entire Senate except the Southern bloc, the majority allowed the small minority to kill the bill by a filibuster. It refused to invoke the Senate cloture rule for stopping filibusters.

This year the test will come on the same thing. The Southerners already have served notice that they will filibuster.

The end of a filibuster in the Senate Committee was forced yesterday by a flood of telegrams from all over the country. Van Nuys admitted the Committee had been deluged with criticism for its procrastination, but attempted to blame it on the advocates of the bill. He said the Committee had not voted because the hearings were not printed, and the hearings could not be printed until Lee Pressman, general counsel of the CIO, and Joseph W. Padway, general counsel of the AFL, returned their corrected testimony.

Van Nuys said the testimony had been sent to the two labor witnesses for the bill on October 28, and had not been returned. He did not explain the other five months of delay in his Committee.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Equal Rights For

Post-War (editorial)

From the Sheboygan Press
— September 21, 1943 —

By C. E. BROUGHTON, Editor

When Lincoln freed the slaves and made his famous Gettysburg address he had in mind that all men were equal.

That equality had been born on the field of battle but it has been nullified to some extent by the so-called Poll Tax. Last year a bill to abolish the Poll Tax passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 265 to 210, and then it slumbered in the senate judiciary committee. It will come up at this session of congress, and we hope it will pass.

The Poll Tax law has affected both white and colored alike, but it had for its purpose disenfranchisement of the colored race. We would not have the people believe that the Poll Tax is a southern invention, because for centuries it has been in use. In ancient Greece the Poll Tax was resorted to and there, too, it was regarded as a badge of slavery. And again it was levied by Islam rulers on unbelievers, and it has been in vogue in European countries for years, always as a sort of a slavery tax.

The Poll Tax has never been what one would conscientiously refer to as a freedom tax. During the reconstruction period following the war between the North and the South the former slave owners who did not believe in the right of franchise for the colored race inaugurated this tax for the sole purpose of holding the Negro down. First the Negro was barred from voting if he did not own property, and while education was made another test, still in the main this was a movement planned to humiliate and to put the Negro at a disadvantage over the white residents.

In a book issued by Edwin R. Embree entitled "Amercian Negroes" we find this interesting page:

"In some states literacy tests were adopted which provided that voters must be able to read and interpret given texts. Few Negroes, however, skilled in reading, have been able to 'interpret' to the pleasure of the white officials. A Negro graduate of Harvard who tried to register in Mississippi was asked to read from the Bible, the Constitution, a Latin book, and a Greek text, all of which he did fluently. Thereupon the registrar picked up a laundry slip with some Chinese characters written on it, thrust it into the man's face, and demanded: 'Now, daggone ye, what does this say?' The Negro looked at it with a smile and answered, 'It means that you white folks are not going to let me vote'."

In more recent years an awakened south has realized that you can't continue to hold the Negro race in bondage by denial of suffrage and expect to continue friendly relations.

Some of the best minds of the South have combined with a view of seeing the Poll Tax abolished in every southern state. At the last session of the Tennessee legislature the Poll Tax was repealed. This repeal was brought to the supreme court of the state and declared unconstitutional. This is the only state whose Poll Tax could be passed upon by the legislature. With the other seven Poll Tax states this provision is part of their constitutions and its removal would raise many complications, which is one of the reasons why the matter was brought to the Congress of the United States.

Last year the anti-Poll Tax bill, sponsored by Congressman Geyer and Senator Pepper was defeated by a filibuster in the senate, while another anti-Poll Tax bill, HR 7, passed the House in May of this year by a vote of 265 to 110, and it is now in the senate judiciary committee and will be reported to the senate this fall.

It is true that not only colored, but white people as well are sometimes disenfranchised because of Poll Taxes, but the measure is aimed to hold the Negro down to the lowest rung and his way of life is hampered. All too frequently we criticize the colored race because of the conditions under which they live. Those conditions are largely brought about by white domination in many of the southern states. We will take, for instance, a colored and a white man, each facing the same conditions as to property. What is the outcome? The colored individual is threatened and remains in seclusion while the white man with no more right to vote than his colored neighbor, gains the use of the ballot. Intimidation is practiced the year around. In some instances those who would manipulate and control elections have gone so far as to threaten wtih weapons.

We have a sympathetic feeling for the colored race that has been held in bondage even though slavery was abolished with the close of the Civil War. We have that sympathy because we know that the colored boys and girls in some backwoods localities, are denied the opportunities to acquire education. And then on top of this, the state or the municipality that holds back education exacts tests that cannot be met.

We hope to see a measure abolishing the Poll Tax written into the federal statutes to the end that there will never be a question raised as to the opportunities afforded under the Constitution. If all men are created equal, if the Bill of Rights means anything, it protects race and creeds. There is no such protection where a Poll Tax plan prevails and is administered by those who would deny the right of suffrage.

POLL TAX BILL PASSAGE URGED

Defender Chicago, Ill

Senator Brooks' (Rep. Ill.) support of the anti-poll tax bill whose passage the Illinois chapter of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberty endorsed Sunday was demanded in a resolution passed at a meeting sponsored by the group at Blackwell A. M. E. church, 3956 Vincennes avenue.

The senators from eight southern states who are opposing the bill must be for all not parceled out in small bits. In these times when America

URGES GA. TO END POLL TAX

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa

ATLANTA, Ga. (ANP)—Georgia was called upon Tuesday night by

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

President Edgar Watkins, of the Georgia Electoral Reform league, to "lead the parade" in abolishing the poll tax as a fee admission fee to the ballot box.

"Since Georgia has taken the lead in giving the vote to 18-year-olds, it is high time we extended the franchise to all adult citizens as well," Watkins said in comments prepared for broadcast on the weekly Georgia Tech round table radio discussion over WGST.

"There is an element of discrimination in permitting 18-year-olds to vote without a poll tax payment which may lead to court action," he added.

Anti-Poll Tax Row Again Is Senate Issue

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Majority And Minority Reports Sharply Split On Rights Of States

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The controversy over proposals to outlaw the poll tax as a prerequisite for voting for federal officers was revived today in sharply conflicting reports from the Senate judiciary committee.

A majority report, submitted by Chairman Van Nuys (D), Indiana, and Senator McFarland (D), Arizona, declared that a citizen denied the right to vote because of his inability to pay the tax "becomes an outcast." A minority led by Senator Connally (D), Texas, contended voting is not a right but a privilege within control of the States. Eight Southern States have such a poll tax.

The majority report recommended passage of a House-approved bill outlawing the tax as a necessity for voting for senators, representatives and presidential electors.

A man, it asserted, "can be drafted into the army and compelled to face the foe and give up his life to protect the lives of his fellow citizens" and yet "be deprived of the most sacred privilege of all—the right to vote."

The minority argued that the bill, which is to be brought up in the Senate early in the year in the face of a threat of a Southern filibuster, is an unconstitutional invasion of the right of the States to determine the qualifications of their voters.

The only way to outlaw the tax, they contended, is by adoption of a constitutional amendment prohibiting its collection as a prerequisite for voting.

"The States could legally fix the sex qualification until the constitution was changed," said the minority report, signed by Connally and Senators Austin (R), Vermont; Hatch (D), New Mexico; O'Mahoney (D), Wyoming; Andrews (D), Florida, and Revercomb (R), West Virginia, and "they can fix the tax qualification until another change is made."

The majority asserted the tax prohibited large numbers from voting "simply because they are poor" and charged the "pretended poll tax qualification" has no place "in any modern system of government."

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Leading Law Interpreter Speaks Out

Law School Authority Warns Of Disservice Poll Tax Brings Forth

BOSTON.—The powerful voice of Harvard University was added to the nation's clamor for the obliteration of poll taxes this week when Prof. E. Merrick Dodd, of Harvard's Law School, gave a statement to the Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts in which he declared that "Senators who take refuge in constitutional doubts as an excuse for voting against the (anti) poll tax bill are doing a disservice to the nation!"

The statement of the law school figure, recognized as one of the outstanding living legal authorities, came in connection with the endorsement of four proposals to the senate by the Civil Liberties body.

Four Proposals

The four proposals adopted by the union are (1) that the hearings on the constitutionality of the bill be started without delay; (2) that the time alloted for these hearings be limited to two days; (3) that witnesses who are to testify be required to submit briefs if they are unable to be present on the date set for hearings; and (4) that the bill be reported to the Senate floor not later than November 1.

It's Constitutionality

"The opponents of the bill to abolish the poll tax claim that the bill is unconstitutional," said Professor Dodd, "and contend that Congress ought not to enact legislation which, they say, is certain to be held invalid by the Supreme Court. The constitution of the United States provides that the voters who elect Congressmen and Senators shall have 'the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numberous branch of the State legislature.' It is argued that the effect of this provision is to give the State legislatures the power to determine the qualifications for voters in national elections. It is asserted that a State legislature has the constitutional right to make payment of a poll tax a qualification for voters and that Congress cannot constitutionally interfere.

"On the other hand, many constitutional lawyers believe that the Supreme Court would hold the payment of a poll tax, which has nothing to do with a person's capacity to vote intelligently, is not a qualification in the constitutional sense, and that Congress can so declare. The constitutional issue is thus in doubt. It is not unlikely that, if the poll tax bill is enacted into law, the Supreme Court will hold it constitutional. Even if the court holds otherwise, the passage of the legislation would be an endorsement by Congress of the democratic principle that no American citizen ought to be disfranchised because of poverty.

"Such a pronouncement by Congress would be of great value as a demonstration of faith in the principles of democracy, even if it should turn out that a constitutional amendment is necessary in order to make the pronouncement legally effective. Senators and Representativs who take refuge in constitutional doubts as an excuse for voting against the poll-tax bill will be doing a dis-service to the cause of democracy."

PREPARE ALL-OUT FIGHT ON POLL TAX

Bee (Magazine Section)
Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (ANP)—Supporters of anti-poll tax legislation were preparing for an all-out drive to push HR-7 through the Senate and over the week-end have these things to report:

1. Last Wednesday's Emergency Executive conference met here with 160 delegates from 20 states to hear how the lines are to be strengthened and what must be done to assure passage of the House-approved bill.

2. The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax announced that Sen. Frederick Van Nuys (D.), of Indiana will call up the bill on January 15, and that Sens. James Mead (D.), of New York and Murdock of Utah would speak in support of the measure, among others.

3. The name of Wendell Willkie has been added to that of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt as being among those prominent persons who have announced their support of HR-7.

4. The fight on the current Green-Lucas soldier-vote bill, now developing in the House, has been made a part of the general fight against the poll tax.

A development which went by practically unnoticed was the fact that HR-7 came up on the Senate calendar in its normal order last Thursday, but by general consent was passed over. Informed of this, Katherine Shryver, poll tax committee secretary, felt greatly relieved that debate did not develop then because, as she said, it would have caught them off guard. She said she had heard that was a bit of strategy that had been planned by a Democrat and a Republican, but she refused to divulge their names.

The emergency conference was addressed by Sen. Mead and by Rep. George Bender (R.), of Ohio, who led the fight for passage of HR-7 in the lower chamber; Vito Marcantonio, whose name is carried on the bill, and by Walter White, executive secretary, NAACP.

The resolution adopted unanimously there condemned the failure of the Senate to pass the Green-Lucas soldier vote bill but rather the state's right bill called the Eastland substitute. It urged every senator to make known his position on cloture, and described as a "delaying action" the attempt on the part of some senators to push for a constitutional amendment to wipe out the poll tax.

The conferees were told that every effort must be bent to see that the bill is kept on the floor and not tabled once it is called up. A simply majority can do this, and any attempt to table should be followed by a demand for a record vote, they were told. The idea here is to smoke out those legislators who would otherwise hide behind the anonymity of a voice vote.

On With Poll Tax Battle

Kansas City Call

Prepare All-Out Fight to Push Passage of HR 7

Kansas City, Mo.

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CIO, AFL, Ask Ban On Poll Tax Filibuster

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30. — Forming a solid front against the anti-poll tax bill, 12 top-notch labor leaders representing the CIO, AFL, and Railroad Brotherhoods today appealed to the Senate to invoke cloture to prevent an "irresponsible filibuster" against the measure.

An open letter to the Senate urging cloture as soon as a filibuster is started was signed by AFL President William Green, CIO President Philip Murray, Julius Luhrsen, Executive Secretary of the Railway Labor Executives Association and A. F. Whitney, President of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

Also signing the letter were: T. C. Cashen, President of the Switchmen's Union of North America, Joseph Curran, President of the National Maritime Union of America, CIO; S. H. Dalrymple, President of the United Rubber Workers of America, CIO; George Meany, AFL Secretary-Treasurer," D. B. Robertson, President of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen; Reid Robinson, President of the International Union of Mine, Mill, and Smelter Workers, CIO; R. J. Thomas, President of the United Automobile Workers, CIO and Mathew Woll, President of the Union Label Trades Department AFL.

The open letter to the Senate said:

"Since the imposition of the poll tax as a requirement for voting, organized labor has opposed this arbitrary price tag on the ballot.

"That ten million Americans are disfranchised by the poll tax is a serious handicap to our war unity at home and to our allied support in other lands.

"A report has been circulated that another obstructionist filibuster will be permitted to block the right of the Senate to vote on HR 7. In the midst of our war for democracy, it is not consistent with the dignity and integrity of the Senate to indulge an irresponsible, willful minority.

"Gentlemen: We ask that you vote for cloture to limit debate if an irresponsible filibuster is enacted. We ask that HR 7 abolishing the poll tax be promptly enacted."

Southern Senators Map Poll Tax Strategy; Filibuster Likely Against Marcantonio Bill

New York Times

New York, N. Y.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10 — A Senate filibuster against the anti-poll tax resolution appeared likely today after sixteen Southern Senators met in secret session to plan action against the measure, which is expected to be reported Friday by the Judiciary Committee. The bill passed the House on May 25 by a 265-to-110 vote.

After the meeting the Southern group refused to discuss the conference, one of them saying they had held up their hands and agreed not to talk. Others referred questioners to Senator Connally of Texas, saying he had been designated as the spokesman of the group.

Almost without exception, every Southern Senator who was asked about the meeting said he intended to fight passage of the Marcantonio Resolution, which would invalidate poll taxes as a requirement for voting in the eight Southern poll-tax States.

"I will have something to say on the subject," said Senator Bilbo of Mississippi, who helped filibuster an anti-poll tax resolution to death in the closing days of the last Congressional session.

The Mississippi Senator said the only way the poll tax could be enacted in the Senate was through the adoption of cloture to limit debate.

"And I am quite certain," he said, "that there are enough Senators who favor the free and unlimited coinage of free speech to beat any attempt to restrict debate in the Senate on an issue so vital."

His colleague, Senator Eastland, said he, too, expected to be heard on the subject when it arose, as did Senator Stewart of Tennessee.

Approved by the Judiciary Committee, the anti-poll tax resolution would put the measure on the Senate calendar, where it would be called up for consideration at any time.

Repercussion Of Anti-Poll Tax Bill In South Feared

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

LITTLE ROCK—(ANP)— U. S. Senator Hattie W. Caraway is in receipt of a letter this week from Dr. J. M. Robinson, president of the Arkansas Negro Democratic Association revealing his fear of consequences and repercussions among white southerners, it has been reported.

"The passage of this bill passes without some form of amendment will do very little good and probably great harm in the south where racial matters are already tense to the breaking point," he wrote.

Political reforms of such potentiality are seldom made by legislation, Dr. Robinson pointed out That he thinks the bill is aimed solely at the white southerner rather than a means of emancipating both races was brought out in his letter when he said:

"Southern white men are not so readily subdued. They are tactful and even though the bill passes they are capable of circumventing the ultimate affect. Such reforms are brought about by a process of evolution."

After stating that no preparation had been previously made to teach Negroes how to properly use the ballot in the south, either defeat or amend the present poll tax bill with a specific understanding that the southern states affected by the passage of this bill amend their voting "rule" in comformity with the supreme court ruling in the case of U. S. vs. Classic from Louisiana, Dr. Robinson suggested.

"Let them permit that rule to read instead of white democrats, all who may qualify as Democrats may vote in the primaries. This has been my contention for the last 15 years," he stressed.

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The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Poll Tax Victory--Make It Complete

MAY 26 1943

An Editorial

THE vote in the House for the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill is a fine victory for the democratic, win-the-war forces of the nation.

This victory is the gratifying result of the non-partisan unity of Democrats, Republicans and American Labor Party forces working in a kind of coalition.

Outside the House, it was greatly assisted by the effective unity of labor, AFL, CIO, and Railroad Brotherhoods, as well as leading Negro organizations, all rousing public opinion to action.



MARCANTONIO

The main fact is that the enemies of the undemocratic poll tax were neither intimidated nor confused. They refused to be cowed or divided.

The fight now goes to the Senate.

This is the traditional "last stand" where the poll-taxers in the past succeeded in defying the welfare and the will of the entire country by their shameful filibuster.

This is where they perpetuated the anti-democratic poll tax by the equally anti-democratic filibuster.

It now becomes the duty of the nation to see that this will not happen again.

MAY 26 1943

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MAY 26 1943

THE political blackmail heard ranting in the House yesterday told the country what is at stake in the poll tax fight.

The poll-taxers threatened the Roosevelt government with reprisals; they threatened the Democratic Party and the war program itself.

These threats have been heard in the past. Their hollowness must now be exposed to the light of day and spurned by the Administration and the Democratic Party win-the-war forces.

MAY 26 1943

These threats carry no force behind them. The poll-taxers cannot threaten the government and the democratic win-the-war forces with withdrawal of support; some do not support the Administration now.

They cannot dare claim to speak for the people of the South; the Dixons and Wilkinsons who threaten "new secession" movements from the Administration speak only for a minority.

The real, rising forces in Southern life, speaking for the majority of its people, are not the poll taxers; they are the new labor movement and the new liberals like Senator Pepper, Justice Black and others, who see in the poll tax-feudal backwardness of the South the greatest obstacle to the South's own economic and political welfare. Talking glibly in the name of the South, the poll taxers are its greatest enemies, its parasitic minority.

Their pretense of defending the Democratic Party sounds hollow indeed as the country sees the unholy alliance of poll taxers and Republicans of the Taft-Brooks-Vandenberg-Nye type.

The Hoover-Taft Republicans are secretly aiding and encouraging the "poll tax bloc" whom they are using as a club against the Government's war effort and the Administration.

Poll tax feudalism joins with pro-Hitler appeasement in this unscrupulous and dangerous alliance, which plans to use the filibuster to balk the national will.

The further existence of the poll tax system is a dire menace to the nation's united war effort because of this poll tax-defeatist alliance against President Roosevelt and the Government.

MAY 26 1943

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MAY 26 1943

FURTHERMORE, the poll tax's abolition will not only release the political energies of millions of Southerners, white and Negro. **It will also provide the war leadership of President Roosevelt and the win-the-war Democratis with the power of enormous new support which is now prevented from acting by the poll tax system.**

The poll tax system prevents the South from fighting effectively for President Roosevelt's leadership; it makes the Administration subject to blackmail threats at the hands of a small oligarchy.

Far from weakening the Democratic win-the-war forces in the South, the abolition of the poll tax will usher in a tremendous growth in the influence and power of these forces. Far from being a support for these Democratic forces, the poll taxers are a severe handicap to them. They can threaten only so long as they have the poll tax to protect them.

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MAY 26 1943

ADMINISTRATION concessions to this poll tax blackmail has solved nothing for the pro-Roosevelt forces. Appeasement or capitulation to it has brought not "unity," as appeasers or politics-as-usual counsellors have claimed; on the contrary, it has brought the immediate actuality of a Democratic-Bourbon-Republican alliance against the government.

The fight for the Administration now compels a firm blow against the anti-Roosevelt Democrats and their GOP allies at one and the same time. This can be achieved by a new broad alliance of Administration, labor, Negro and Southern liberal forces, as well as anti-Hoover Republicans.

For this is by no means a sectional or a "North-versus-South" matter. It is indeed a matter on which the future of the nation's war leadership may depend. The opening up of the South to democracy is vital to America's war for survival.

MAY 26 1943

Public opinion has this duty, then, to enter the fight in the Senate with irresistible pressure.

Such meetings as the New York June 7th rally for Negro rights are typical of the public demonstration which can ring with the demand for the end of the hated poll tax system which robs millions of Southerners of democracy, and confronts the nation with the menace of a feudal-appeaser alliance.

Poll Tax Ban Passes House By 265 to 110

MAY 26 1943

Sailor Stages Protest Against 'Paying to Vote'

MAY 26 1943

Washington, May 25 (AP)—Heckled by a sailor who declared Congress still was fighting the Civil War, the House voted today to let the citizens of seven Southern states ballot in national elections without paying poll taxes.

The legislation, adopted 265 to 110, goes to the Senate, where filibusters have killed similar measures in the past.

The 21-year-old sailor delivered an impromptu speech from the visitors' gallery, demanding: "Why does a man have to pay tribute for the right to vote?"

The second class naval signalman later described himself as Evan Owen Jones, Jr., of Los Angeles, and said he had served in the Navy two years, having been in the Battle of Singapore. He climbed to the railing surrounding the gallery just as Representative Whittington (D., Miss.) rose to oppose the bill.

MAY 26 1943

Sailor Says He's Disgusted.

"You don't have to pay to fight; why should you have to pay to vote?" he shouted.

Taken to the capitol police room, Jones said he came here on forty-eight-hour leave " to see what makes the country click."

"And I'm disgusted," he told Kenneth Romney, sergeant-at-arms. "Those people in there (the House chamber) are fighting the Civil War all over again. They should spend their time fighting this war."

Jones acknowledged he "spoke out of turn," but observed the legislators were "just wasting their time anyhow."

But Jones told Dr. George W. Calver, capitol physician, he believed "we have the best Government anywhere, and I've seen a lot of them," and said he and others are "fighting to keep it the best Government in the world and believe Congress should do its part."

MAY 26 1943

Foes Argue States Rights.

Dr. Calver said the sailor had been released to return to his ship. The physician, a naval officer himself, expressed the opinion that Jones was "just letting off a little steam."

Debate on the bill followed the lines of past years, Southern opponents contending Congress had no authority to interfere with the rights of states to prescribe qualifications for their voters, and proponents insisting federal legislation is necessary to safeguard voting rights for thousands of Southern Negroes.

As adopted, the ban would apply to primaries as well as general elections. An amendment to limit it to general elections, offered by Representative Hobbs (D., Ala.), was defeated on a standing vote of 85 to 75. An amendment proposed by Representative Hoffman (R., Mich.) to prohibit the prescription of voters' educational requirements, was shouted down by a voice vote.

MAY 26 1943

Union Issue Brought In.

Hoffman chided Northern members for opposing requirements for the payment of a $2 fee to vote while, he said, they upheld the right of labor unions to charge their members "$12 a year for the right to work."

"Representative Starnes (D., Ala.) said John L. Lewis and Philip Murray, labor leaders, want the tax abolished so "they can rid the country" of representatives opposed to them.

Representative Marcantonio (A. L., N. Y.), author of the bill, told the House 10,000,000 persons now are prevented from exercising their right to vote through the operation of poll tax laws. Of that number, he said, 4,000,000 are Negroes.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Expect Tough Fight

MAY 21 1943

All Citizens Urged to Write Congressmen

MAY 21 1943

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH
REEL 84

WASHINGTON — The house of representatives will vote on the anti-poll tax bill (H. R. 7) Monday, May 24.

Every citizen everywhere is urged by the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, to write or wire the congressmen from his district insisting upon three points:

1.—That he be in Washington and on the floor of congress on May 24 and 25 during every minute of consideration of the bill, H. R. 7.

2.—That he vote against every amendment to the bill.

3.—That he vote for H. R. 7.

MAY MANEUVER

It is feared that the opponents of the bill will use parliamentary maneuvers to prevent consideration of the bill on May 24 and that they will attempt to intimidate other congressmen with a view to making them vote against the bill or persuading them to be absent when the vote is taken.

Another scheme of the poll taxers is to load down H. R. 7 with all sorts of amendments so that when it comes to a final vote congressman who would vote for the repeal of the poll tax bill will vote against it because of riders attached to it.

The bill is coalition measure introduced by Cong. Vito Marcantonio of New York with the support of several other representatives. It would abolish the payment of a poll tax as a requirement for voting in federal elections in southern states, thus giving the ballot to millions of Negroes and white persons in the South.

MAY 21 1943

TRY TO KILL IT

An attempt was made to bury the bill in the house judiciary committee but a discharge petition was signed by 218 congressmen, forcing the bill out of the committee.

If the bill passes the house, it will then go to the senate judiciary committee.

After the necessary 218 signatures were obtained for the discharge petition, Congressman Marcantonio sent the following statement to The Call:

"On May 24 the vote will be taken to bring up my bill, H. R 7, and on May 25 final action will be taken. Congressmen George Bender, William L. Dawson, Joseph V. Gavagan, Warren G. Magnuston and Tom E. Scanlon were staunch leaders in this fight.

MAY 21 1943

PRAISES GEYER

"I do not want the country to forget the fine service of these or of the late Cong. Lee E. Geyer who first introduced anti-poll tax legislation into congress. I thank them and each of the 218 members of the house who signed my discharge petition for their support.

"I want to express my personal gratitude to you and your paper and to the Negro people and their organizations for the unyielding support they have given me and my colleagues in this fight. We have cause to be glad that a vote will take place on anti-poll tax legislation in the house.

"But we must not let up our pressure either in the house or the senate. This time, anti-poll tax legislation must not be filibustered to death by a wilful minority in the senate.

"We must watch out also for attempts of poll taxers to pile my bill with amendments. Every American who wants to bring democracy to 10 million voteless Negro and white citizens should wire his congressman now to vote for H R. 7 and to reject all amendments. May 24 is an historic day in the fight for democracy. The Negro people must not lose this opportunity. They must make their voices heard now."

Thanks Friends Of Poll Tax Bill

WASHINGTON. — The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People expressed thanks this week to its 600 branches, youth councils and college chapters and to all interested organizations and persons whose efforts forced the anti-poll tax bill out of committee by petition.

The N.A.A.C.P. urged that as soon as the anti-poll tax bill is passed by the House all supporters of this legislation to extend the franchise to 10,000,000 citizens in the South immediately demand that their respective senators vote for the passage of tnis bill.

Negro voters, having in mind the 1944 election, will closely watch the voting of their senators if and when a motion for cloture is made on the senate floor.

Columbia, S. C. State
March 25, 1943

Repeal of Poll Tax Is Urged

Cole Offers State Group Suggestions for Easing Interracial Tension

Dr. William E. Cole, head of the University of Tennessee social science department, yesterday urged repeal of the poll tax law as a prerequisite to voting in general elections as a "practical" medium of easing inter-racial tension.

Speaking before the annual meeting of the State Committee of the Southern Commission on Inter-racial Co-operation, at Benedict college, Cole said "these times are different from those of Reconstruction—those sad days which have left behind a nightmare of fear.

"In states where the Negro is not yet allowed to vote," he said, "people cry out, 'What will happen if the poll tax is repealed and the Negro is allowed to vote?' Nothing. You won't know the difference. The Negro will vote just like the white man, make just as many mistakes, be just as faulty and just as good. . . .

"The Negro of today is not an ignorant, pushed-along-by-a-carpet-bagger, uneducated slave but an educated citizen with the interests of his country at heart and a desire to serve its best interest. . . ."

He said the white and Negro press could "do much to ease inter-racial tensions," the white by devoting more space to worthy Negro activities and the Negro "by being less bitter and not whacking Southern leaders over the head and slurring conservative Negro leaders."

Reports of committees and a talk by R. Beverly Herbert of Columbia, state committee chairman, were other features of the meeting. New executive committee members appointed were C. A. Johnson of Columbia, Mrs. Alice Anderson of Anderson and the Rev. A. J. Wright of Bennettsville.

In introducing Doctor Cole Mr. Herbert told the committee that "fair dealing and encouragement will enable the Negro to do vastly more for the cause in which we are all so interested. The best evidence we can give the people in othr countries of our sincerity is in how we treat them.

"I hold it as part of our war duty to see to it that Negroes get justice in America. Their men are serving bravely, faithfully and humbly in the armed forces of our country and the least we can do is to see that at home they are not forgotten.

"Finally, when the war is won, unless we have so far progressed away from the prejudiced treatment of the Negro, we have won only half a victory. The South cannot hobble along on the road to progress and democracy on one foot. We have two races. Poverty and oppression of one is bound to react on the other and it is only by justice and fair treatment of both that we can hope to get the best results."

Atlanta Ga.

Antipoll Tax Bill Near Vote

WASHINGTON, May 25.—(AP). Southern congressmen fought a rear guard action Tuesday after being overwhelmed in their initial efforts to block House consideration of a bill outlawing poll taxes.

The odds were more than two to one against them and the outcome of Tuesday afternoon's two-hour debate was virtually a foregone conclusion since the floor forensics are not expected to sway any appreciable voting strength in their favor.

By a vote of 268 to 110 the House decided Monday to vote on the question of whether seven Southern states—Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia—have a constitutional right to demand that voters pay a poll tax before they can qualify to vote in a general election.

Some Southern leaders expressed the opinion privately that continued harping on the anti-poll tax issue by Democrats in other sections of the country might disrupt party unity.

Describing the repeal movement as "a sorry bid for the Negro vote," Representative Cox (Democrat, Georgia) declared that "if the New Deal persists in heaping indignities upon the states that have kept the Democratic Party alive in years gone by, then you can imagine what might happen in those states if the people should have the opportunity to vote for an American or for a Constitutional Party."

Repeal advocates contend the poll tax is unconstitutional.

With their House bastions crumbling, the Southerners' next line of defense is the Senate, where a filibuster could drown the issue in a welter of words.

Thus far, however, no poll tax champions have stepped forth in the Senate this yea

South Fights Poll Tax Bill

Southern House Members Stage Losing Battle After Early Defeat

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Poll Tax Abolition Proposed For State

Frederick H. Dedmond and I. S. Leevy, both of Columbia, asserting they represented the Southern Interracial Conference, have asked the House of Representatives judiciary committee to introduce legislation to abolish the poll tax as a prerequisite for voting in South Carolina.

Chairman Calhoun Thomas of the committee said the committee had received the request, but had told the men that in view of anticipated adjournment Saturday, there was no time for such legislation, and that two-thirds of the committee would have to agree to such a bill before it would become a committee measure.

The two men asked that the legislation not abolish the tax, but just abolish its payment as a voting requisite.

Bells are worn by Japanese soldiers which are believed by them to protect the wearer from harm

Supporters Start Another Drive

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 15—With only 50 names to go out of 218 needed to force a vote on anti-poll tax legislation, supporters of the anti-poll tax bill introduced by Representative Vito Marcantonio (H.R. 7) began this week a hurried drive to secure the balance of the names

Petition to House Discharge Committee and John Kee of Missouri, Louis Ra-

For the first time this week it was reported that several members of the House of Representatives who came from dis-Poll Tax states still refused to sign the House

Only 50 Signers Needed

Anti-Poll Tax Bill

52e-1943

Labor in South Rips Poll Tax Attacks on FDR

(Special to The Worker)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Southern labor gave a vigorous answer to Southern poll-tax politicians who have been waging a bitter campaign against President Roosevelt and his war policies. The worker's answer was in the form of a check for $516.92, gathered in small donations from more than 567 persons by several Alabama Locals affiliated to the Bessemer Red Ore Council of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union, CIO and presented to the Democratic National Committee as a "token," according to the Council, of "what the people of Alabama, the rank and file Democrats of the state, are ready to contribute in money, effort and devotion in support of President Roosevelt and his war policies of victory."

According to the letter of the Red Ore Council which accompanies the check, the raising of this fund was intended as a direct challenge to Gessner T. McCorvey, chairman of Alabama State Democratic Executive Committee and other state party leaders who had refused to raise Alabama's share of the Democratic National Committee's budget in protest against President Roosevelt's policies.

The Red Ore Council's letter, which was signed by its President, Howard Mooney, and by the some 600 persons who had already made contributions, sharply attacked Governor Dixon, Congressmen Hobbs and Starnes, and other Alabama Democratic bosses for their threat to "secede" from the National Democratic Party and make an alliance with certain Northern Republicans

The inference was clear: the Democrtic poll-tax politicians in Alabama may desert President Roosevelt; may fight against his war policies; but the rank and file Democrats of the state, including labor, will stand solidly behind the Commander-in-Chief.

The check and the letter which accompanied it were sent to the National Democratic Committee through Senator Lister Hill, one of the few win-the-war Senators from the South. Copies of the letter were sent to President Roosevelt, Edward J. Flynn, chairman of the National Democratic Committee; and Phillip Murray, president of the CIO.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Marcantonio Of New York Is Sponsor

Predicts Measure To Pass In 1943; Will Force Action

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Predicting House passage by June, Representative Marcantonio, American Labor, New York, announced Saturday that he had "a plan to pass the anti-poll tax bill in 1943." He has drafted for immediate introduction, when Congress convenes Wednesday, a bill that would outlaw the poll tax levied, in some Southern states, as a prerequisite of voting for federal officials.

Although he was warned by southern Democrats that his move might turn the slim majority in the House into a minority, Marcantonio declared that he could thwart a Senate filibuster this year by obtaining House action on the bill early in the session.

TO FORCE ACTION

He announced that he would file a discharge petition in February to force the bill to the floor from the committee and said that was no doubt the necessary signatures would be obtained.

"Every week," he promised, "the people of the country will be informed which congressmen have signed the discharge petition and which have not. I am sure the people will see to it, under these circumstances, that the necessary 218 signatures are obtained in short order."

An anti-poll tax bill was passed by the House at the last session after a bitter fight but was killed in the Senate by a filibuster such as has blocked anti-lynching legislation in past years.

In his prediction that his bill would pass the House by June, Marcantonio added that "a year and a half will be a long time for poll tax senators to carry on a filibuster.

NATIONAL MOVEMENT

Meanwhile, in Brooklyn, N. Y., both white and colored organizations and trade unions are adding their strength to the national movement to abolish the poll tax during the sessions of the 78th Congress.

Twenty-five outstanding clergymen of the borough, under the leadership of the Rev. T. S. Harten, have organized the Brooklyn and Long Island League to Abolish the Poll Tax.

In addition to the movement, State Senator Louis B. Heller of New York and Assemblyman Robert J. Crews have informed the league's secretary of their intention to introduce resolutions early in the session of the New York legislature memorializing the House of Representatives to pass HR 7, a bill to abolish the poll tax in federal elections.

POLL TAX

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

NEW ANTI-POLL TAX BILL LOOMS

Southern Democrats Warn Of Possible Bolt To GOP

BY WILLIAM F. ARBOGAST

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3—(AP)—In the face of warnings by Southern Democrats that the action might turn the slim Democratic majority in the House into a minority, Representative Marcantonio (A. L., N. Y.) announced Sunday "a plan to pass the anti-poll tax bill in 1943."

He has drafted for immediate introduction when Congress convenes Wednesday a bill that would outlaw the poll tax, levied in some Southern states, as a prerequisite of voting for federal officials. A similar measure was passed by the House last session after a bitter fight, but was killed in the Senate by a filibuster such as has blocked anti-lynching legislation in past years.

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Predicting House passage by June, Marcantonio commented that "a year and a half will be a long time for poll tax senators to carry on a filibuster."

Southerners warned that they would hold the Democratic leadership responsible for the legislation. One influential Democrat on the House judiciary committee, who preferred to remain anonymous, added that many Southern Democrats would feel justified in joining Republicans in opposing New Deal measures if Northern Democrats joined Republicans in supporting legislation "aimed solely at the South."

They conceded that the chances of blocking poll tax and anti-lynching legislation in the House were slim, but expressed confidence of stopping it in the Senate.

While hestitating to predict an outright bolt of Southerners from Democratic voting ranks in the House, Manasco (D., Ala.) commented that there were in the neighborhood of 100 House members from Southern states. The Democratic leadership is counting heavily on Southerners to retain control in the closely split new House, where the Democratic majority was whittled to 13 in the November elections.

Anti-Poll Tax Bill Ready For Congress

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

New Yorker Defies Southerners' Warings

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People to Be Informed

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The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Gov. Fights Poll Tax

(Special to the Daily Worker)

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 14.—Gov. Prentice Cooper, in his first formal statement on the poll tax issue, has declared that he intended to exert all legitimate means at his disposal to bring about repeal of the state law restricting the franchise in Tennessee.

Not only did the governor promise to fight for the repeal of the poll tax, but he expressed his opinion that his efforts would be crowned with success.

"I have made a pledge to the people of Tennessee and I intend to keep my word," the chief executive declared.

Despite the governor's position, there is a strong bloc of votes in the current legislature willing to do almost anything to defeat the measure. This bloc includes a registration law. If this registration measure fails, the poll tax repeal number of legislators pledged to vote for repeal of the poll tax would have to be privately hope the measure will be passed over the governor's veto and the strong support never be brought up by roll call. Shelby bloc and it could obtain from the smaller vote.

The Shelby county delegation rural counties, ruled by Iron-Handed Ed Crump of Memphis, hinges its support of repeal to a statewide, permanent

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

New Masses
New York, N. Y.
JAN 26 1943

Kill the Poll Tax

BILBO, "the Man," is back in the Senate, a little hoarse from his triumphant and obscene filibuster that helped kill repeal of the poll tax in the last session. He is something of a hero to every anti-Semitic, Negro-hating anti-democrat. But Bilbo didn't kill the movement to abolish the poll tax; he merely postponed passage of the bill. Already, Representatives Marcantonio, Gavagan, and Baldwin of New York, Bender of Ohio, and Magnussen of Washington have introduced measures calling for repeal.

It should be noted that Stephen Day of Illinois, notorious defeatist, also offered a bill to get rid of the poll tax. But Day's horning in represents something other than a genuine devotion to the people's needs. For Day is a Chicago *Tribune* man whose record matches that of the worst appeasers in Congress. He is interested at the moment in using the poll tax issue as an excuse to belabor the administration and to disrupt the war effort. Day claims the support of an outfit existing only on paper, the National Negro Council, and boasting the membership of one Edgar Brown, who writes paid articles for Col. Robert McCormick. But for all this "mass support"—even with John L. Lewis tagging along—Day will find that he cannot, as he hopes, take over the anti-poll tax movement before running it into the ground and use it for political profit.

The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax has begun immediate mobilization of its forces for a "fight from hell to breakfast," as they put it up at committee headquarters. Negro organizations have launched powerful campaigns. Organized labor vigorously presses for poll tax repeal, as Philip Murray emphasized at the CIO legislative meeting last week. Democrats and Republicans alike can challenge reaction at its very source, and around the poll tax fight forge the unity needed to smash the defeatists. There can be no greater guarantee that this Congress will be forced to act—and favorably. As Representative Marcantonio adds, the Senate will get its chance well before the end of the term so that any Bilbo filibuster will have to last mighty long time.



It is worth adding that Representative Guyer of Kansas and Gavagan of New York have entered bills designed to end lynchings. A victory outlawing the poll tax will greatly advance the chances of passing anti-lynch legislation as well in the coming year.

ALP Plans Drive Here For Anti-Poll Tax Law

Every voter in Manhattan will get literature calling for support of an anti-poll tax bill that Rep. Vito Marcantonio will introduce at the opening of the 78th Congress, according to plans of the New York County Committee of the American Labor Party.

In announcing the campaign, Eugene P. Connolly, committee secretary, said:

"The outrageous tactics of a handful of anti-democratic poll-tax Senators in defeating the will of the American people must not be allowed to happen again."

Will Ask State Legislature to Act on Poll Tax

State Senator Louis B. Heller and Assemblyman Robert J. Crews declared over the week end that they intended to introduce resolutions early in the session of the State Legislature, memorializing the House of Representatives to pass H R 7, a bill to abolish the poll tax in federal elections. The announcement was made to Bert J. Coffey, secretary of the Brooklyn and Long Island League to Abolish Poll Tax.

The League is sponsored by 25 outstanding clergymen of the borough. It was organized at the Holy Trinity Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. Thomas S. Harten

POLL TAX REPEAL KILLED IN GEORGIA

ATLANTA, Ga., Feb. 25—(FP)—Poll tax repeal is a dead issue as far as the current Georgia legislature is concerned. Three measures seeking to repeal or modify the rigid $1 per year fee for the right to vote have been killed in the House of Representatives.

Georgia's poll tax is cumulative and many persons would now have to pay upwards of $20.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Representative Marcantonio, Of New York, To Sponsor Legislation

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House passage of the bill by June was predicted by Marcantonio who commented that "a year and a half will be a long time for poll-tax senators to carry on a filibuster."

Southerners warned that they would hold the Democratic leadership responsible for the legislation. One influential Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, who preferred to remain anonymous, added that many southern Democrats would feel justified in joining Republicans in opposing New Deal measures if northern Democrats joined Republicans in supporting legislation "aimed solely at the south."

POLL TAX SHOULD BE ABOLISHED

THE introduction of six anti-poll tax bills in the House of Representatives in its first four legislative days indicated strong support in the new Congress for an early action in attempting to outlaw the poll tax.

Now is the time to abolish the poll tax. While the whole nation is aroused to it and all that it implies by the way the Geyer-Pepper Bill was treated in the last Congress. Abolition of the poll tax should be one of the first order of business for the new Congress.

No single stroke by Congress will do more to strengthen morale than the destruction of the poll tax. In the poll tax states, 10,000,000 (4,000,000 Negroes and 6,000,000 whites) loyal men and women are held in political peonage. Voteless, they are voiceless when the cry of freedom for all men is being desperately heard above the clash of arms around the world.

The ten million men and women are subject people. While their sons fight to establish the right of all men everywhere to choose their own government, these people are held silent by a price tag on the ballot. Abolition of the poll tax will help proclaim before the world that America intends to practice the "Four Freedoms" that are being preached so loudly.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
January 21, 1943

What Will Be Their Reply?

When again the foolish and hypocritical bill for the repeal of the poll tax as a qualification for voting shall come before the United States senate and Senators Smith and Maybank shall oppose it, as they will what will be their reply to the jeering accusation from the New Dealers supporting the bill, "Why your governor, other candidates for senator and governor, many persons in your state, have openly proclaimed that your state primaries have been fraudulent and candidates for governor and United States senator have said that they have been cheated out of elections or have been defeated by the use of money?"

What will Senators Smith and Maybank say when these New Dealers say that negroes and poor whites are disfranchised by the poll tax and then say, "Why your own governor and others have told you time and again that the primaries are fraudulent and rotten, that you white men in South Carolina cheat yourselves in elections. And you have done nothing about it. Do you ask us to believe that you South Carolinians are fair and just to negroes when your governor has said more than once that your white people swindle themselves in elections?"

Poll Tax Measure Passed by Senate

A bill to help delinquent poll tax payers to be reinstated on the voters' lists throughout the state was passed in the Georgia senate yesterday by a vote of 29 to 13.

The bill will bring the delinquent civilians back into the ranks of voters with a maximum payment of $3. Discharged members of the armed forces will be brought back in within a year after they return from the wars.

Senator Jack Williams, of Waycross, was author of the measure and an amendment was written into it by Senators Bloodworth and Millican, which held the gates open to the general public for two years and for the discharged service men and women for a year after their return.

52e-1943
The Worker
New York, N. Y.

POLL TAX REPEAL: A Priority for Victory

MAY 23 1943



REP. DIES

The eight poll tax states of the South—Alabama, Arkansas Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia—have 69 Representatives and 14 Senators in the Congress of the United States. Tennessee, which repealed the poll tax in 1943, has 2 Senators and 10 Representatives elected under the poll tax system. From these states come such men as Joe Starnes and Sam Hobbs of Alabama, Eugene Cox and Carl Vinson of Georgia, Martin Dies and Hatton Sumners of Texas, John Rankin and Theodore ("The Man") Bilbo of Mississippi, "Cotton Ed" Smith of South Carolina, and Howard Smith of Virginia. These men typify the scandal of the poll tax. They are the sponsors and supporters of dangerous, divisive legislation, the authors of disruptive speeches, the disturbers of national unity.

These men and their poll tax colleagues hold an ill-gotten balance of power in the United States Congress. Elected year after year with little or no opposition, chosen by less than 3 per cent of the people in their districts, they have the power to strangle the democratic government of the nation. One hundred and eleven million Americans in the 41 free voting states have 366 Representatives in the United States Congress. The twenty-one million Americans in the poll tax states have 69. Statistically the South's representation seems consistent—but the parity is only an illusion.

MAY 23 1943



SEN. BYRD

In many non-poll tax states more than 35 per cent of all residents regularly participate in Congressional elections. In 1942, for example, 36 per cent of all Illinois residents participated in the Congressional elections. Figures in non-poll tax states included 28 per cent in California, 33 per cent in Connecticut, 38 per cent in Indiana, 25 per cent in Pennsylvania. Contrast this with the poll tax states—2 per cent in Alabama, 1 per cent in South Carolina, 3 per cent in Virginia—an average of only 3 per cent for all poll tax states.

MAY 23 1943

Eight Congressmen have the distinction of being "one percenters"—elected by the votes of only 1 per cent of the population of their district. These men are: Representatives Cox and Pace of Georgia; Whittington of Mississippi; and Fulmer, Hare, Bryson, Richards and McMillan of South Carolina. 83,000 people voted in every non-poll tax Congressional election, to 9,800 in every poll tax constituency. Yet poll taxer Congressmen have equal votes in Congress with Congressmen of free-voting states.

MAY 23 1943



REP. RANKIN

Sam Hobbs (Ala.) holds his seat by virtue of less than 7,500 votes — from 3 per cent of his constituents. Little wonder that he ignores their wishes and desires. Hobbs is one of 33 out of the 69 poll tax Congressmen who had no opposition in either the primary or general election in 1942; 21 of his colleagues had no opposition in the general election; and only 15 poll taxers faced competition in November, 1942.

Carl Vinson (Ga.), Chairman of the powerful House Naval Affairs Committee, represents 2 per cent of the people in his district. He is now serving his sixteenth term in the House—and was re-elected without any opposition in the 1942 campaign.

S. O. Bland (Va.), Chairman of the important House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, is another two percenter, as are Chairman Henry B. Steagall (Ala.) of the House Committee on Banking and Currency; Robert Ramspeck (Ga.), ranking member of the House Labor Committee and Chairman of the Civil Service Committee, and many more.

MAY 23 1943

The story can be repeated ad infinitum. The highest numerical vote in a poll tax district was cast in the eighth district of Texas—but the total vote of 32,029 represented only 6 per cent of the constituency. The highest percentage voting under the poll tax was found in the twelfth Texas district of Representative Fritz Lanaham where 9 per cent of the population participated in the 1942 elections.



SEN. CONNALLY

Committee appointments in both Houses of Congress are governed by seniority. Poll taxers have seniority—and important committee control thus rests in their hands. Seventeen of the 47 standing committees of the House of Representatives in Congress are headed by poll taxers, 3 more than in the last session. They include the following Committees and their Chairmen:

Agriculture — Hampton F. Fulmer (S. C.)
Banking and Currency—Henry B. Steagall (Ala.)
Civil Service—Robert Ramspeck (Ga.)
Claims — Dan R. McGehee (Miss.)
Judiciary — Hatton W. Sumners (Tex.) (This is the Committee which bottled up the Geyer anti-poll tax bill for four years and is now refusing to act on H. R. 7.)
Merchant Marine and Fisheries —Schuyler Otis Bland (Va.)
Naval Affairs — Varl Vinson (Ga.)
Patents — Frank W. Boykin (Ala.)
Public Buildings and Grounds —Fritz G. Lanham (Tex.)
Rivers and Harbors—Joseph J. Mansfield (Tex.)
World War Veterans' Legislation—John E. Rankin (Miss.)

MAY 23 1943



SEN. BILBO

In the Senate the story is similar. Ten of the thirty-three standing committees have poll tax chairmen. They are:

Agriculture—Ellison D. ("Cotton Ed") Smith (S. C.)
Appropriations — Carter Glass (Va.)
Enrolled Bills—Hattie W. Caraway (Ark.)
Expenditures in the Executive Department — Lister Hill (Ala.)
Finance — Walter F. George (Ga.)
Foreign Relations — Tom Connally (Tex.)
Immigration—Richard B. Russell (Ga.)
Irrigation and Reclamation—John H. Bankhead, 2d (Ala.)
Pensions—Theodore G. Bilbo (Miss.)
Rules—Harry F. Byrd (Va.)

Poll tax representatives hold No. 2 majority positions on the following Committees of the House with good chances of succeeding to their chairmanships unless the poll tax is abolished:

Accounts—Nat Patton (Tex.), Frank W. Boykin (Ala.) and John J. McMillan (S. C.) are in second, third and fourth ranking Democratic positions.
Appropriations — Clifton A. Woodrum (Va.) is No. 2 man.
Census—John E. Rankin (Miss.) and Ed Gossett (Tex.) are in second and third rank.
District of Columbia—Dan R. McGehee (Miss.) is No. 2.
Foreign Affairs — Luther A. Johnson (Tex.) is in second place.
Labor—Robert Ramspeck (Ga.) is No. 2.
Military Affairs — R. Ewing Thomason (Tex.) ranks here.
Pensions—Nat Patton (Tex.) is second in command.
Roads—William M. Whittington (Miss.) is No. 2.
Rules — E. E. Cox (Ga.) and Howard W. Smith (Va.) are in second and third positions.
Territories — Hugh Peterson (Ga.) and Nat Patton (Tex.) are second and third ranking here.

MAY 23 1943



SEN. GEORGE

Thus poll-tax chairmen head 17 of the 47 Standing Committees of the House, hold the second ranking Democratic position on another 11 committees, and thus dominate more than half of the House Committees, and all of its important ones.

Poll tax Senators hold the second ranking positions on the following committees:

Banking and Currency—Carter Glass (Va.)
Commerce—Hattie W. Caraway (Ark.)
District of Columbia — Carter Glass (Va.)
Interstate Commerce — Ellison D. Smith (S. C.)
Manufactures—Ellison D. Smith (S. C.)
Patents — Ellison D. Smith (S. C.)
Privileges and Elections—Ellison D. Smith (S. C.)

MAY 23 1943



REP. HILL

—Reprinted from the pamphlet Poll Tax Repeal—by the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Poll Tax

MAY 27 1943

The sailor who interrupted the debate in the House on the anti-poll-tax bill explained afterward that he had come to see how a democracy works and found them (the Congressmen) "fighting the Civil War all over again." That is an excellent description of the effect upon legislative tempers of the inopportune resurrection of the poll-tax issue. The Post holds no brief for the poll tax. It is generally conceded that the few Southern States that still make payment of the poll taxes a prerequisite to voting do so for ulterior motives. By insisting on the constitutional issue has arisen as to the importance of the constitutional issue has been exaggerated by both friends and foes of congress in the democratic system of anti-poll-tax legislation. The burning question nevertheless arises as to whether any substantial progress in election reform of a more genuinely democratic only by courtesy. The result from Federal legislation would effect, in disfranchising Negroes, as well as issue involved. They argue that a large proportion of the poorer white population. The result is that members of Congress from some Southern States are elected by inability or unwillingness to think such arguments as a system of voting that can be called

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

to pay poll taxes. As a result, some hot-headed Southern opponents of the bill just passed by the House have served notice that the Southern poll-tax States would find means of evading a Federal legislative mandate aimed at reform of their voting methods. This is not an empty threat. There are innumerable ways of preventing a free exercise of the voting privilege if the people are so minded. Educational and literacy tests can be, and have been, perverted to such base ends. And if all else fails, a most effective device for keeping people from exercising the franchise is terrorism. Voters have to be assured protection at the polls and in their homes in order to make the legal right to vote anything more than an empty privilege. MAY 27 1943

Is the Federal Government prepared to accord protection to disfranchised voters in parts of the country where the State authorities either cannot or do not choose to accord it? Of course, the Federal Government is in no position to undertake such policing tasks. The responsibility rests with the States, and we must depend upon the people of the States, too, to support and enforce demands for reforms in election practices. They have already done so in some Southern States. They will be much more likely to do so in the remaining poll-tax States if they are left to accomplish reforms without being subjected to a kind of Federal compulsion that would be effective only in sowing dissension at a time when national unity needs to be sedulously cultivated.

Columbia, S. C. Record
May 26, 1943

Fundamental Change.

The anti-poll tax bill brought up in Congress has been passed by the House.

By a vote of 265 to 110 the House acted yesterday on the bill to deny seven Southern states—Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia—the right to demand that voters pay a poll tax before they can qualify to vote in a general election.

The bill, sponsored by Representative Marcantonio, is of no importance or at least very little so far as enfranchising Negroes in the South. If all that stood between the Negroes and voting was a dollar a year poll tax, any and every Negro in South Carolina would vote. South Carolina might very well, as The Record has pointed out before, abolish the poll tax itself. It could do so without increasing or decreasing the number of voters, for nobody fails to vote in South Carolina for the lack of a dollar to pay poll taxes. The poll tax is not even levied against women.

What is involved in the bill and what makes it important is the fundamental change in American governmental philosophy involved in its passage. Heretofore the states have had the right to prescribe the qualifications for voting. In this bill the Congress undertakes to say that one of the qualifications prescribed by seven or eight of the Southern states—Tennessee, which repealed its poll tax may have to be added to the list, for apparently it didn't do the repealing constitutionally—shall be prohibited in federal elections. If the Congress can act at all in this field, it could act to abolish any and all restrictions upon the ballot set up by any and all of the states and so doing it would become the authority prescribing the conditions under which the right of suffrage might be exercised rather than the states.

And this is a fundamental change in the American system of government. It is more than the sponsors of the anti-poll tax bill, which is a political bill, even aim at. If it should be done, it should be done openly and above-board by amending the federal constitution. It should not be done casually as the by-product of an essay into New York and Chicago vote getting.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

H. R. 7 Must Pass!

MAY 20 1943

SUPPORT for the fight to banish the hated poll tax is growing. One proof of this is the editorial statement of the New York Times that "the history of the modern poll tax indicates that it was adopted to curtail voting, and therefore to impair democracy" (May 16, 1943).

It is therefore a little surprising to read the agitated Arthur Krock in yesterday's Times assailing the anti-poll tax (H. R. 7) bill as a "challenge" to an "uninterrupted line of Supreme Court decisions." Reflecting the horror of the poll taxers at every increase in democracy, Mr. Krock shrieks thus at his own editorial writers: MAY 20 1943

> ". . . in view of the fourth term drive and the New Deal trend to centralization, every new federal grab of rights reserved to the states is a new peril to the American democratic system."

What "peril" to American democracy is involved in permitting 10,000,000 Americans, 6,000,000 whites and 4,000,000 Negroes, in the poll tax states to vote?

What "federal grab" is involved in an orderly vote by duly elected representatives from the various states? MAY 20 1943

These arguments, rejected even by the Times editors themselves, will certainly bear little weight with the American people who are fighting in every corner of the globe to maintain a free independent America. On the contrary, passage of the anti-poll tax bill will stimulate American democracy. Millions of white and Negro Americans will be strengthened in their democratic faith. This will reflect itself in a more powerful, more united war effort. MAY 20 1943

Aside from Mr. Krock's stale legalisms, the real danger to the anti-poll tax bill is more subtle. The bill is due to come to the House floor Monday, May 24, or the following day. The strategy of the poll taxers, who control most of the House committees, is to blackjack independent representatives into staying away from the floor on pain of defeat of their favorite bills in various committees. Americans everywhere should inform their Congressmen that they must appear on the House floor to vote for H. R. 7. **No absenteeism is excusable.**

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

The Poll Tax: A Challenge

Now that the House of Representatives has adopted the Marcantonio Anti-Poll Tax bill by 265 to 110, the measure goes to the Senate.

Already there is some doubt being expressed about the possibility of it passing that august body where so many anti-lynching bills have died at the feet of filibuster.

Because America is in a war to the death, this bill is a great challenge to our most noisily patriotic senatorial minority which regards every measure of this kind as a threat to white supremacy.

These gentlemen have been making the welkin ring recently with denunciations of John L. Lewis because he wants a couple of dollars more a day for the underpaid coal miners of this country who are fighting a losing battle against prices, thanks to the failure of OPA bureaucrats to "hold the line" on food costs.

They have been yelling "treason" at workingmen who delayed war production by striking for a few cents more an hour to get more bread.

Will these patriotic senators now delay the important work before Congress which is so vital to the war effort, by staging a filibuster against the anti-poll tax bill?

Will Bilbo, Connally, "Cotton Ed" Smith, and the rest of the more fervent patriots, forego filibustering and let this bill come to a vote?

Or will they waste the Senate's, the country's and the United Nations' time re-fighting the Civil war, ignorantly discussing the "race" problem and the "threat" of Negro rule, and digressing into long-winded dissertations on the virtue of Southern women and the alleged superiority of Dixie cuisine?

If it is "unpatriotic" and "treasonable" for workers to strike in an effort to catch up with a soaring cost of living in the midst of a life-and-death struggle to save this civilization, what shall we say of senators who hold up the Government of this country while they harangue against a measure which will bring this land closer to democracy?

It is to be hoped that these senators will properly meet this challenge to their patriotism.

Report FDR Tells Negro Bishops of Anti-Poll-Tax Hope

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.
(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)
WASHINGTON, June 17—President Roosevelt was reported today to have told a delegation of Negro bishops this week that he favors the bill which was contained in the navy policy bill. Negroes. enactment of the anti-poll tax bill. The President was understood to The President's action in sending agents to the spot. was said to have

This report of the conference with the Negro bishops in the Pittsburgh Negro weekly the Courier, the hinted at changes promotion of

JUN 8 1943

Bad

Words Fly As House Passes Poll Tax Bill; Rankin Rants

Houston Texas Informer

Washington — (ANP)— Proponents of anti-poll tax legislation rolled up an overwhelming majority of 265 to 110 and sent the abolition bill to the senate last Tuesday following an afternoon of heated discussion on state's rights, constitutional rights and the rights of the voteless.

The bill, which bore the name of Congressman Vito Marcantonio of New York, got across in record time this year and by a heavier vote. In the 77th congress it took a year and a half and was finally voted on by the house last October 252 to 84.

Better Organization

With better organization both in and out of congress, the measure was introduced on the first day of the session, January 6, the discharge petition was completed May 6, and the floor fight began on May 24, four and a half months after its introduction. Thirty-nine votes more were cast on the bill than in October, 13 additional ones for and 26 against.

An amendment to exempt primary elections from the meaning of the bill, proposed by Rep. Sam Hobbs of Alabama, was defeated on a division vote 90 to 167. An effort to recommit the bill was also beaten off. The vote was not listed in the record by party, but a check of the names by the Associated Negro Press reveals that 169 Republicans, 92 Democrats, 1 Farmer-Laborite, 2 Progressives and 1 American Labor supported the measure, while 16 Republicans joined 94 Democrats in opposing. Of the 54 persons not voting, 21 were Republicans and 33 Democrats.

These are the men who spoke in support of H. R. 7: Baldwin, Klein, Celler, Gavagan and Marcantonio of New York; Scanlon of Pennsylvania; Bolton of Ohio; Dawson of Illinois; Springer of Indiana and Gifford of Massachusetts. Warren G. Magnussen of Washington controlled the time of the proponents.

The opposition opened its fire with a tirade from Rep. O'Hara of Minnesota. Two other northerners, Winter of Kansas and Hoffman of Michigan, denounced the bill along with various members of the southern bloc.

It took Rep. Joe Rankin of Mississippi to malign Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, the President's wife, when he declared, including Congressman Frances Bolton in his reference:

Rankin Baits

"When I realize the damage these women are doing by thus waving the red flag in the face of the whit people of the South, and stirring up race trouble throughout the country, when I realize the number of white women who have paid with their lives at the hands of Negro rapists here in Washington, and throughout the South, as a result of such agitation on the part of these trouble makers, I am compelled to agree with Rudyard Kipling when he said, 'The female of the species is more deadly than the male'."

One of the most stirring orations in behalf of the measure was made by the gentlewoman from Ohio, Representative Bolton. She said in part.

"To my mind this issue is one that transcends every other issue we have had because it takes up the great problem that will face the world after this war—race . . . If we cannot change our attitudes about race, we are going to bring misfortune upon the heads of our children or upon the heads of their children.

"Let me remind you, gentlemen, that the so-called Negro problem is no longer a southern problem. but a national and an international one.

A Lady Speaks

"He (the Negro) plays his part in the sun besides us, he is dying beside us, and he is dying with the flag of our country at his lips if he can get it. What do we do? Ah, we should be ashamed that we do so little! We draft him and send him out to his death, we expect his loyalty, his patriotism. Gentlemen, I beg you to enlarge your vision and look at this from the broad aspect of a world which is a part of the universe of Almighty God."

Senator Eastland declared Wednesday that "the southern delegation would oppose the bill to the last man."

JUN 2 1943

PM

New York, N. Y.

Today's Letter to a Congressman



Rep. Hall

To stimulate a campaign to tell Congress what the People want done about the crisis on the home front, we are making a contest of the letter-writing by our readers and offering $5 each day for the best letter to Congressmen. Send up a duplicate or carbon copy of the letter you are sending to your Congressman. Address it to the Congress Mail Editor. We'll print the winning letters. Keep them short. Today's best letter to a Congressman was written by Harold Goldstein, 1211 Frisco Ave., Far Rockaway, N. Y.

JUL 6 1943

To: Rep. Leonard W. Hall:

Several months ago I wrote you urging that you help abolish the poll-tax law by voting to discharge the Pepper-Geyer anti-poll tax bill from committee and bring it to the floor for a vote. You wrote me in response that, much as you deplored the undemocratic features of the poll tax, you firmly believed in state's rights and feared the growth of centralization of power in Washington. You pointed out that here in New York we have our own kind of law to eliminate voters, the literacy test! In the face of that kind of thinking I gave up. Thereby I failed in my duty as a citizen. I should have kept on writing you, until you were sick and tired of my letters, but convinced that your grammar school arguments didn't have any effect, at least on one of your constituents.

On that and most other vital issues you were not alone in Congress. You had plenty of encouragement from fellow Representatives who, like yourself, were perfectly willing to sell your country down the river. Since you wrote me, the poll-tax-abolition bill has gotten an awful kicking around, the President and his administrative agencies almost hamstrung in their efforts to prosecute the war, race riots occurred up and down the country, and just recently I sold my house and moved out of your district. I thought you would like to know that; now you can tear up my letters with impunity. You needn't answer them either. I think I win out right there.

JUL 6 1943

BATTLE OF CAPITOL HILL

Chicago Defender

Somewhere in the voluminous records of Congress there is a massive 475-page document in small type. It is the printed testimony in the year and a half of public hearings on the anti-poll tax bill by the Senate Judiciary committee in the last session of Congress.

Certainly there has been enough evidence presented to uphold the immediate need for a poll-tax repealer.

Yet democracy moves in strange ways. With this tremendous volume of testimony before it, the Senate Judiciary committee is again trying to hang a shroud of red tape around H.R. 7, the recently-passed House bill to abolish the tax on the right to vote.

Senator Frederick Van Nuys, committee chairman, has named a subcommittee of five to consider the bill, evidently intent on again going through the complete rigmarole which gave the Dixie filibuster bloc free rein to sabotage the measure last time.

To top off the brushoff of the vital bill, Senator Van Nuys has placed none other than Senator Tom Connally of Texas on the subcommittee. Consider Herman Goering on the Allied general staff and you have a good analogy.

These initial steps to quietly dump H.R. 7 indicate the terrific struggle which faces Negro and white progressives to achieve victory in their battle for democracy at the polls. It is a battle that transcends party lines—a clean-cut fight between progress and reaction.

JUN 19 1943

Only the complete mobilization of the Negro people in every community and in every organization will guarantee the passage of H.R. 7.

The filibuster clique can and will be beaten by the united will of the American people expressed in no uncertain terms to their representatives in Congress. The time to fight is now when the anti-poll tax bill is before the Judiciary committee.

This is a job for every patriotic American—Negro and white. Here are the steps to take:

1. Write immediately to Senator Ernest W. McFarland, chairman of the Senate Judiciary subcommittee, demanding favorable action on the anti-poll tax bill. Get your club and lodge to do likewise. Chicago, Illinois

2. Write to Majority Leader Sen. Alben W. Barkley and Minority Leader Charles L. McNary asking them to support cloture (shutting off debate) the miniute the filibuster starts.

JUN 19 1943

3. Write the two senators from your state asking them to work for passage of the ban on poll taxes.

Now that the anti-poll tax bill has reached the Senate, the fight for its passage has just begun. It will be an uphill fight but we on the home front can beat our enemies in the committee rooms just as sure as our boys on the Tunisian front blasted the Hitlerites off the face of Africa.

Thoughts On Poll Tax

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser

Topping the list of bills enacted into law by the recent session of the Legislature was House Bill No. 1, by Mr. Gwin, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama to exempt persons from payment of poll tax who served in the military service of the United States during the World War and the present war. September 6, 1943

The amendment encountered no opposition and will be voted on at the next general election. It is almost certain of approval, for exemption from poll tax payment was granted to veterans of World War I, and the voters could do no less in extending the same privilege to those who serve in this war.

But this raises a question. Just who will there be to pay a poll tax, after this war is over?

After hostilities cease, hundreds of thousands of boys and men, between 18 and 38 and up to 45 or older, will have been in service and therefore eligible for poll tax exemption.

Add these to the number freed of this suffrage requirement by the last war, plus those over 45 who automatically are not required to pay the tax, and who will be left to continue its payment?

There will be a good many women, of course, and those men or boys rejected for

military service.

The number of these two groups, however, will be far less than those who will not be required to pay the fee for voting.

Exemptions will apply to white and Negro veterans alike. There will be no legal bar to the Negro voting. Only custom will prevent his exercising the right of suffrage.

The same will apply to the poorer whites, many of whom did not have the money for poll tax payment or did not think it worth the price to vote.

At any rate, after this war there is likely to be a considerable shift in Alabama's voting strength.

Without legal repeal of the poll tax requirement, the law is going to be nullified in large part by exemptions of war veterans, both white and black. The letter may remain, but in actual fact the substance will be gone.—Huntsville Times.

hite Sailor Scores Poll Tax om Gallery Seat in House

People's Voice

WASHINGTON (FP).—The House was electrified, May 25, during the hottest spell of debate on HR 7, Vito Marcantonio's (ALP, NY) bill repealing the poll tax, when a young sailor stepped out on a gallery ledge and said, "Mr. Speaker, I speak for the thousands who can't be here. Why should a man have to pay to vote but not to fight?"

Grabbed on all sides by gallery doorkeepers and police, he said with dignity he'd go quietly. He was Evan O. Jones, 1, of Los Angeles, veteran of several battles, including Singapore, in two years at sea. Before being sent to his ship, the sailor said, "Those men in there are fighting the Civil war over again. Why don't they get into thinking about this war?"

New York, N. Y.

He didn't get to stay for it, but Sailor Jones would have been pleased at the vote: 265 to 110. Among the 10 Republicans against it were the anti-labor John Taber (NY) and Clare Hoffman (Mich.) and Noah Mason (Ill.) of the Dies committee.

Must Gag Bilbo

CONGRESSMAN URGES POLL TAX PRESSURE

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 17—Mobilization of all forces to combat expected senatorial opposition against the Anti-Poll Tax bill has been urged by George H. Bender, Congressman-at-Large from Ohio, chairman of the steering committee of the House coalition behind the measure.

Congressman Bender admits that despite the overwhelming victory in the House, a terrific fight can be expected in the Senate, particularly with Senator Bilbo's promised filibuster. To check this obstacle in the path of the bill, Bender has asked that all possible pressure be brought to bear about a gag against the determined Bilbo; that it is necessary to pledge every Senator to vote for cloture if the filibuster is to be defeated.

FLAYS POLL TAX DEMOCRATS.

The Rev. William C. Kernan, chairman Refugee committee, Episcopal Diocese of Newark, flayed poll tax advocates in a radio speech last Tuesday.

"Poll tax Democrats gladly accept democracy on the field of death where all are equal," Rev. Kernan maintained. "They do not demand that Negroes be prevented from fighting for America or that they pay a tax for the right to die for her. If democracy is all right, then, it should be all right in civil life. Those American soldiers, white and colored, who are good enough to fight our wars abroad, are good enough to enjoy the rights of American freemen at home—good enough to have equal rights with all other Americans to be educated, to work, to be secure, and to vote."

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

ANTI-POLL TAX BILL FORCED BY PETITION TO HOUSE FLOOR

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Anti-Poll Tax Bill (H. R. 7) was released from the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee last week, 218 members having signed a petition to bring the bill, author of which is Rep. Vito Marcantonio of New York. Under House rules debate on the measure will start May 24.

The poll tax repeal bill would remove voting disability from six milion white and four million colored citizens in seven Southern states. At present, the Representatives from the seven states are perpetuated in office by a vote averaging less than 3% of the population. Many are elected by 1% or less.

As soon as the anti-poll tax bill is passed by the House all supporters of this legislation are urged immediately to demand that their respective Senators vote for the passage of this Bill.

BOSTON—Here the Greater Boston Anti-Poll Tax Committee, Atty. John S. R. Bourne, chairman, conducted a vigorous campaign to urge Bay State Congressmen to sign the discharge petition.

The Committee will meet at 558 Massachusetts Ave., Monday, May 17, at 8 p.m. Sponsors include: Dr. George W. Coleman, Mrs. Noyes Collinson, Miss Zara duPont, Mrs. John Macdonald, Professor Kirtley F. Mather of Harvard, Professor Francis O. Matthiessen of Harvard, Julien D. Steele, Maude Trotter Steward, Professor C. Fayette Taylor of M. I. T. Other officers besides Mr. Bourne are James Durkin of the CIO, vice-chairman; William Harrison, secretary; and Dr. Robert A. Simmons, treasurer.

THE POLL TAX TEST

Members of the national congress keep hammering away at the poll taxes in eight Southern states, claiming for the desired abolition all sorts of future benefits for the downtrodden, benefits which neither history nor sound logic would promise. Some of these sob-sisters and world-savers seem mentally unable to face the facts.

Do they think that everybody ought to vote? That the inclusion of all adults would improve the ballot list? Don't they know that nearly all states have some restrictions and qualifications for voters? Are they intent upon abolishing all the age, intelligence, and character requirements of the various states? Furthermore, can't they see that, by reducing still further the control of matters traditionally held as intra-state, they are building infinitely stronger the federal centralization which on the other sides of their mouths, their group usually opposes? What is the gist of their thinking? Isn't it just politics, an appeal for group support?

The truth about poll tax laws, or at least the law here in Alabama, is that they are certainly not any ideal test of the qualifications for suffrage. A keenly administered intelligence test, backed up by proofs of good character, would be much better. On the other hand, our state poll tax payment is a very simple and a quite effective measurement of the main qualities desired in a sovereign voter.

Montgomery, Ala

Let's think for a moment of the Alabama poll tax as a test for fitness. When an election comes along and a congressman, sheriff, or governor is to be elected, who is qualified under Alabama law to do the choosing?

Those citizens, and only those, can cast a ballot who months before election time, before the heat of the campaign could develop, were thoughtful and interested enough to appear at the tax office, pay the $1.50 fee, all of which goes to education, and have their names entered on the qualified list as full citizens. The poll tax books are open only from October 1 through February 1. Many a person pressed by candidates in the hot struggles just before balloting days wishes he had qualified; but the state is protected against many kinds of corruption by the fact that the lists are closed upon these late thinkers.

What does the poll tax test? Certainly not financial ability. If those saviours-of-the-oppressed in Congress would come down and investigate, they would find that most of the non-voters spend more in a year for tobacco, liquor, or some other non-essential which has their interest than the whole poll tax cost for a lifetime amounting to $36.00. The poll tax actually tests thoughtfulness-at-the-right-time and continuing interest. A man who is extremely ignorant and not much interested in good government simply cannot remember, or, cannot think, to pay his $1.50 between October 1 and February 1. Thereby the public is protected against his ignorant and purposeless ballot.

If the poll tax is abolished, then the legislature must adopt some other standard of measurement for voters. The value of the existing plan is its extreme simplicity and ease of administration. A better but far more complex, difficult, and expensive standard will be a comprehensive educational and character record as a basis for getting on the qualified list.

Advertiser

'Forum of Air' To Take Sides On Poll Tax

Constitution

Archie has writ himself a new book and will attempt to persuade the screen lovely, Ida Lupino, to prepare a scenario of it for a big movie man when she visits "Duffy's Tavern" today at 7:30 p. m. from WAGA. "Duffy's First Reader" is the personal autobyography of Archie who is wasting no time in planning a film version of the "worst seller." On hand tonight to help Archie work out the scenario for the greatest screen debacle of all time will be Miss Duffy, Finnegan, Eddie and Announcer Hary Von Zell.

Atlanta, Ga.

The anti-poll tax bill will be discussed on today's "American Forum of the Air," from WATL at 8:30 p. m. Representatives Joseph C. Baldwin, of New York, and Warren G. Magnuson, of Washington, will speak in favor of the bill, while Representatives Sam Hobbs, of Alabama, and Frank Fellows, of Maine, will represent the opposition. Hearings on the bill are scheduled to start before the senate judiciary committee next week. It already has passed the house.

The new official song of the America's sailors, Quentin Reynolds will interview Commander William H. Brockman, three-time submarine service, "Take 'Er Down," will be given its world premiere performance by Ray mond Paige's "Young Americans," during a Navy Day "Salute to Youth", broadcast from WSB at 0:30 p. m. In further tribute to

52-1943
Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mississippian To Stage Filibuster On Senate Floor

June 5, 1943

WASHINGTON, June 3—A warning that the Anti-Poll Tax bill would be "filibustered" to death was issued here last week by Senator Theodore Gilmore Bilbo, of Poplarville, Miss., following its passage in the House by a vote of 265 to 110 in a dramatic climax to a hard won fight to get the bill through the lower house. Bilbo stated he was ready to conduct an 18-month one-man filibuster against the bill whenever it is called up in the Senate.

Early passage of the Poll Tax Bill by the House means the bill can be called up anytime during the current session, which ends in January, 1945, after its torturous session through the Senate Judiciary committee. Prompt action in the Senate will force the Mississippi senator to keep his promise to underwrite a year and a half of talk.

LED FIGHT IN LAST CONGRESS

June 5, 1943

What struck many observers as significant was the fact Bilbo used the word "filibuster" in his talk Most statesmen shy away from that word although they adopt that time-killing method to defeat legislation. Bilbo was one of the leaders in the Senate to defeat a similar measure in the closing sessions of the last Congress.

The vote as tabulated in the House showed the following:

YEAS—265

Allen, Ill., H. Carl Anderson, Anderson, N. Mex.; August H. Andresen, Andrews, Angell, Arends, Arnold, Auchincloss, Baldwin, N. Y.; Barrett, Barry, Bates, Mass.; Beall, Bender, Bennett, Mich.; Bennett, Mo.; Bishop, Blackney, Bloom, Bolton, Bradley, Pa.; Brehm, Brown, Ohio, Buckley, Buffett, Burchill, N. Y.; Burdick, Bushey, Butler, Byrne, Canfield, Cannon, Mo.; Carlson, Kans.; Carson, Ohio; Carter, Case, Celler, Chenoweth, Chiperfield, Church, Clason, Clevenger, Coffee, Cole, Mo.; Cole, N. Y.; Compton, Crawford, Crosser, Cullen, Cunningham, Curley, D'Alesandro, Dawson, Day, Delaney, Dewel, Dickstein, Dilweg, Dingell, Dirksell, Ditter, Dondero, Dworshak, Eberharter, Ellis, Ellison, Md.; Ellsworth, Elmer, Elston, Ohio; Engel, Fay, Fernandez, Feighan, Fish, Fitzpatrick, Fogarty, Forand, Ford, Furlong, Gale, Gamble, Gavagan, Gavin, Gearhart, Gerlach, Gifford, Gilchrist, Gillette, Gillie, Goodwin, Gordon, Goski, Graham, Grant, Ind.; Griffiths, Gross, Gwynne, Hagen, Edwin Arthur Hall, Leonard W. Hall, Halleck, Hancock, Harless, Ariz.; Harness, Ind.; Hart, Hartley, Heffernan, Heidinger, Herter, Hess, Hill, Hock, Hoeven, Holifield, Holmes, Mass.; Holmes, Wash.; Hope Horan, Howell, Hull, Jackson, Jeffrey, Jenkins, Jennings, Anton J. Johnson, Calvin D. Johnson, Johnson, Ind.; J. Leroy Johnson, Johnson, Okla.; Ward Johnson, Jones, Jonkman, Judd, Kean, Kearney, Keefe, Kefauver, Kelley, Kennedy, Keogh, King, Kinzer, Kirwan, Klein, Kunkel, LaFollette, Lamberston, Lane, Landis, LeCompte, LeFevre, Lemke, Lesinski, Lewis, Luce, Ludlow, Lynch, McCormack, McCowen, McGregor, McMurray, McWilliams, Madden, Magnuson, Mansfield, Mont.; Marcantonia, Martin, ;Merritt, Merrow Michener, Miller, Conn.; Miller, Mo.; Miller, Pa.; Monkiewcz. Monroney, Mott, Mruk, Mundt, Murdock, Murphy, Murray, Wis. Myers, Norman, Norton. O'Brien, Ill.; O'Brien, Mich.; O'Connor, O'Konski, O'Neal, O'Toole, Outland, Pfeifer, Philbin, Phillips, Pittenger, Ploeser, Poulson, Powers, Priest, Pracht, Rabaut, Ramsey, Reece, Tenn.; Reed, Ill.; Rees, Kans.; Robinson, Utah; Robinson, Ky.; Rockwell, Rodgers, Pa.; Rogers, Calif.; Rogers, Mass.; Rohrbough, Rowan, Rowe, Sadowski, Sasscer, Sauthoff, Scanlon, Schiffer, Schuetz, Schwabe, Scott, Shafer, Simpson, Ill.; Smith, W. Va.; Smith, Maine; Smith, Wis.; Snyder, Somers, N. Y.; Spence, Springer, Stanley, Stevenson, Stockman, Sullivan, Sundstrom, Talbot, Talle, Taylor, Thomas, N. J.; Thomason, Tibbott, Tolan, Towe, Van Xandt, Voorhis, Calif.; Vorys, Ohio; Vursell, Walter, Ward, Wasielewski, Weichel, Ohio; Weiss, Wene, Wheat, Wigglesworth, Willey, Wilson, Wolcott, Wolfenden, Pa.; Wolverton, N. J.; Wright, Ximmerman.

NAYS—110

Abernethy, Allen, La.; Baldwin, Md.; Barden, Bates, Ky.; Beckworth, Bell, Bland, Bonner, Boykin, Bradley, Mich.; Brooks, Brown, Ga.; Bryson, Bulwinkle, Burch, Va.; Camp Chapman, Colmer, Cooper, Courtney, Cox, Cravens, Creal, Curtis, Domengeaux, Doughton, Douglas, Drewry, Fisher, Flannagan, Folger, Fulbright, Fulmer, Gathings, Gibson, Gibson, Gossett, Ala.; Green, Gregory, Hale, Hare, Harris, Ark.; Harris, Va.; Hays, Hebert. Hendricks, Hobbs, Hoffman, Jarman, Jensen, Lyndon B. Johnson, Kerr, Knutson, Lanham, Larcade, McCord, McGehee, McKenzie, McMillan, Mahon, Maloney, Manasco, Mansfield, Tex.; Mason, May, Mills, Morrison, La.; Murray, Tenn.; Newsome, Norrell, O'Brien, N. Y.; O'Hara. Pace Patman, Patton, Peterson, Fla.; Peterson, Ga.; Poage, Price, Ramspeck, Rankin, Reed, N. Y.; Richards, Rivers, Rizley, Robertson, Satterfield, Simpson, Pa.; Slaughter, Smith, Va.; Sparkman, Starnes, Ala.; Steagall, Stewart, Sumner, Ill.; Sumners, Tex.; Taber, Tarver, Thomas, Tex.; Vincent, Ky. Wadsworth, Weaver, West, Whelchel, Ga. Whitten, Whittington, Winstead, Winter Woodrum, Va.

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—3

Fellows, Kee, Wickersham.

NOT VOTING—54

Boren, Burgin, Cannon, Fla.; Capozzoli Clark, Cochran, Cooley, Costello, Culkin Davis, Dies, Disney, Durham, Eaton, Elliott, Fenton, Gallagher, Gore, Granger, Guyer, Hinshaw, Izac, Luther A. Johnson, Kilburn, Kilday, Kieberg, Lea, McGranery McLean, Maas, Martin, Iowa; Miller Nebr.; Morrison, N. C.; Nichols, O'Leary Plumley, Randolph, Rolph, Russell, Sabath Sheppard, Sheridan, Short, Sikes, Smith Ohio; Stearns, N. H.; Stefan, Treadway Troutman, Vinson, Ga.; Welch, Whit Woodruff, Mich.; Worley.

The clerk announced the following pairs ON THIS VOTE

Mr. Short for, with Mr. Davis against
Mr. Izac for, with Mr. Vinson of Geogia against.
Mr. Stefan for, with Mr. Russell against
Mr. Capozzoli for, with Mr. Wickersham against.
Mr. Rolph for, with Mr. Fellows against
Mr. O'Leary for, with Mr. Sikes against
Mr. Groutman for, with Mr. Cannon of Florida aaginst.
Mr. Costello for, with Mr. Clark against.
Mr. Kee for, with Mr. Luther A. Johnson aaginst.
Mr. Randolph for, with Mr. Cooley against.
Mr. Eaton for, with Mr. Boren against.

GENERAL PAIRS:

Mr. McCranery with Mr. Hinshaw.
Mr. Sheridan with Mr. Miller of Nebraska.
Mr. Sabbath with Mr. Fenton.
Mr. Cochran with Mr. Smith of Ohio.
Mr. Sheppard with Mr. Guyer.
Mr. Kleberg with Mr. Plumley.
Mr. Morrison of North Carolina with Mr. Gallagher.
Mr. Dies with Mr. Woodruff of Michigan.
Mr. Worley with Mr. Treadway.
Mr. Granger with Mr. Kilburn.
Mr. Nichols with Mr. Culkin.
Mr. Gore with Mr. Maas.
Mr. Burgin with Mr. Welch.
Mr. Kilday with Mr. McLean.
Mr. Elliott with Mr. Stearns of New Hampshire.

Poll Tax

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

POLL TAX

APR 28 1943

Southern farmers average $186 a year, tenant farmers $73 a year and share croppers $38 or 10 cents a day. Would you be able to pay for the right to vote from this amount after rent, food, clothing and existance were taken care of.

APR 28 1943

In the seven Southern States: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia(Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia, ten million peoples are denied the right to vote because they haven't the money to pay this poll tax. Ten million may not appear significant, but it is one fifth of the population of the United States who voted in the last National eletcion.

Who are these people? They the colored and white, farmers and laborers. Take the share cropper who buys at the company store. At the end of the year as far back as he can remember his store bill has always amounted to $234. Sometimes he bought less than $4.50 worth of goods at the store, but always his bill for the year was the same.

The United States and the United Nations fight today for the preservation of free elections as the cornerstone of democracy. This idea is not politics as usual. It is a war necessity. The continuation of the poll tax helps facism. It hinders the demorcacy we are fighting for.

APR 28 1943

The poll tax is to the United States what the subjugation of India is to Britain. Freedom can not be explained to people who are denied it.

APR 28 1943

Right now the question of the poll tax is in the Judiciary committee of Congress. It is possible to get this bill on the floor now. 218 signatures of representatives are required to bring this bill to a vote. 153 signatures have already been obtained.

A member of the citizens committee who is working on this bill, received a letter from Vito Marcanino, telling him that the Republican representatives of the state of Washington still have not signed. This is the point where all of us can do something. If we bombard our representatives in Washington with petitions urging the abolishment of the poll tax, if we form groups and send night letters to our representatives. Then we shall force them to repeal the poll tax.

APR 28 194

The citizen's committee reeciv-ed a night letter from Rep. Marcantonio, N. Y., sponsor of the anti-poll tax bill, telling us that signatures have already been obtained. Washington's Republican representatives have not yet signed. They must sign.

APR 28 194

Clinton, S. C. Chronicle
February 25, 1943

JUDGE JOHNSON HITS INDIFFERENCE OF THE PEOPLE

Tells Grand Jury Too Many Allowing Someone Else To Do Their Thinking. Congress Scared.

Judge J. Henry Johnson, of Allendale, charged the Laurens county grand jury during the February term of general sessions court, that "too many of us are allowing somebody else to do our thinking for us. We elect representatives and then seldom if ever give them the benefit of our views."

The following account of his address was reported in The Laurens Advertiser:

Declaring that he was inclined to speak on "The Necessity of Thinking," Judge Johnson said he couldn't come to that state of mind where he thought there shouldn't be any public criticism of things as they are. He recalled that on the morning after Pearl Harbor he told a grand jury in Richland county that "somebody must have been asleep at the switch" and this later turned out to be true, a court of inquiry having subsequently found that everybody had been "asleep" except one boy.

"Don't let anybody tell you," he warned, "that there should not be constructive criticism of those from top to bottom." The same thing applied to compliments and praise, he said, declaring that it is equally important to give credit where credit is due.

Among things he said that Southern citizens might think about are the so-called social reforms now being fostered on the nation under the guise of war measures. "Some of them may be all right," he said, "but they should be left for the individual state to decide whether they want them or not." He mentioned the anti-poll tax measure as one of the reforms that the social minded are trying to foist on the South, a few leaders up North claiming that the poll tax is used to keep the Negro from voting.

"There is not a word of truth in it," he said. "The poll tax has been in effect in this state for over a hundred years and in some Southern states since prior to the Revolution. Only of late have the reformers found out that it kept the Negro from voting."

"As a matter of fact," he continued, "I am beginning to wonder if a man ought to be allowed to vote who is not willing to pay as much as $1 a year for the many privileges he enjoys in this great country of ours."

He then referred to the new revenue measures in congress. "That is another thing you might write your congressman about," he said. Mentioning the efforts of some in congress to exempt from the payment of income taxes all those earning less than $2,000 a year, he declared, that this was just another effort to relieve labor union members from the payment of these taxes. "Just another matter of policy looking toward the election of 1944," he added.

Scoring the labor policies of the country as causing the high cost of the war, he said that the war is costing four times as much as it ought to. "I know a man in my county who couldn't make $35 to $50 a month in ordinary times now drawing $25 a day for one day of work on Sunday.

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ble in the South," he said, "it will be because of meddling by social reformers in the North who have political axes to grind."

"If they will just let us alone," he said, "we will not have any trouble. I count the colored people as my friends and I want them around me but they must not be led astray by their so-called friends. And they are not all Republicans, either."

Birmingham, Ala., News

May 26, 1943

South's Legislators Pin Hopes On Senate To Clinch Poll Taxes

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Routed Southern congressmen looked hopefully to the Senate Wednesday to kill legislation outlawing the imposition of poll taxes in national elections.

Passed late Tuesday by the House on a roll-call vote of 265 to 110 over almost solid Southern opposition, the legislation is similar to previous bills approved by the House and talked to death in the Senate.

Opponents professed to see in the present Senate makeup an even better chance to halt the measure, since the veteran George Norris, of Nebraska, who was influential in bringing the bill to the floor in past years, no longer is a member.

Affecting primary as well as general elections, the legislation was described by its author, Rep. Marcantonio (Amn. Lab., N. Y.) as designed to protect the voting rights of 10,000,000 citizens, including 4,000,000 Negroes, in seven Southern states having poll taxes.

Debate, which bogged around the constitutionality of the procedure, was enlivened when a United States sailor nimbly leaped to a railing in the visitors' gallery Tuesday and started making an impromptu speech against poll taxes.

Before being ejected by police, he asked "Why does a man have to pay tribute for the right to vote?" and added that "You don't have to pay to fight, why should you have to pay to vote?"

He identified himself as Evan Owen Jones, Jr., 21, of Los Angeles, a signalman, second class, and said he had been on active duty for two years, including participation in the Battle of Singapore.

Jones told reporters he came to the Capitol while on 48-hour leave to "see what makes this country click." He declared he was "disgusted" because members of Congress "are fighting the Civil War all over again."

"They're just wasting their time anyhow," he said.

He was released after questioning.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

APR 26 1943

Abolition of Poll-Tax Would Hit Anti-FDR Bloc in Congress

APR 26 1943

By Elizabeth Lawson
(Instructor, Workers School)

This is the last of a series of four articles by Elizabeth Lawson on the fight against the poll tax.

The passage last year in the House of Representatives, by the thumping majority of 252 to 84, of the anti-poll tax bill, was a ringing victory for the American people and for the United Nations. Too often we recall only the defeat of the bill at the hands of Senate filibusterers. Consider this: it has been only a few years since the Southern Conference for Human Welfare first raised the possibility of anti-poll tax legislation. In 1942, when the anti-poll tax bill first came to a vote in Congress, it was passed. Had it not been for the filibuster, it would undoubtedly have passed the Senate also—it was precisely for this reason that the Senate poll-taxers resorted to filibuster.

What has happened? For the first time since Civil War and Reconstruction, the entire nation is vigorously behind the struggles of the Southern masses for equality with the rest of the nation. The fight that for more than half a century could count among its supporters only the Negro people and their organizations, the more militant sections of the labor movement, and a handful of middle-class liberals, is now the cause of the United Nations itself, including the win-the-war forces of finance capital. The gains are being made too slowly, but they are being made.

APPEASERS ACTIVE

But the appeasers and the poll-taxers continue their opposition, and intensify it. The spearhead of the fight to retain the poll tax is the Southern bloc of reaction, in alliance with the bloc of reaction in the North. The fight for and against the anti-poll tax bill is developing against the background of the rapidly unfolding conflict around the 1944 elections. In the Republican Party the Hoover clique, and in the Democratic Party the Southern poll-taxers and the Farleyites are plotting the capture of their party conventions. The Democrats are especially bitter at Roosevelt's two pronouncements against the poll tax—in 1936, in an open letter to Brook Hays, Democratic National Committeeman from Arkansas, and again at a press conference on February 13, 1942. The first step in the plot of the reactionary Democrats to seize the party machinery is defeat of the Roosevelt Democrats in the state primaries and nominating conventions. One of the important political effects of the passage of the anti-poll tax bill would be to weaken this group enormously. The bill is, therefore, an important factor in the elections, and these are, in turn, of crucial importance for the war and for victory.

APR 26 1943

Any discussion of the poll tax struggle is incomplete without tribute to the spade-work of the Communist Party, which years ago broke ground to plant the first seeds of this struggle. The Communist Party, through its pioneer activities in organizing the masses of the South, through its bold propaganda and agitation of Southern issues, and especially through its leadership in the conduct of the Scottsboro case, reawakened a nation to consciousness of a problem that it had quite forgotten.

For years the Communist Party carried on that fight almost single-handed; on that issue, more than on any other, it was vilified, slandered and persecuted. Today the Communist Party is no longer alone in the struggle for equality of the Southern people with the rest of the nation; and it is glad that it no longer works unaided. But the truth remains, that, without the early labors of the Communists, it is highly improbable that Marian Anderson would have sung to a vast audience on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial; that the steamship Booker T. Washington would have sailed from port with a Negro captain; that labor organizations would be opening their doors to Negro members; that unionism would be spreading rapidly in the South, to become part of the daily lives of millions of whites and Negroes; or that the anti-poll tax bill would be agitated today in the Congress of the United States.

APR 26 1943

TASKS ARE VARIED

The tasks in the fight to do away with poll-tax restrictions are varied, complex and difficult. At the moment there is intense pressure upon members of Congress to refuse their signatures to the petition to bring the Marcantonio bill out of committee and on to the floor of Congress, or, if they have already signed, to withdraw their signatures. Therefore, if your Congressman has not signed, write him or see him; if he has signed, write him or see him anyway. What he does will ultimately be determined by the extent of his commitments to his constituents. Local and state courts, city councils, state legislatures must be persuaded to petition for the repeal of the poll tax. Many such bodies have already taken action.

APR 26 1943

With the securing of the signatures necessary to bring the bill to a vote in the House, the task is by no means complete. The necessary pressure must be brought upon all branches of the Administration to assure its passage. The mass campaign, its size, its strength, its alertness, its determination, will decide the outcome.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

No Poll Tax In Louisiana

GOVERNOR Jones considers himself a liberal; he says so himself, and we believe he should be given due credit for his efforts, since his election three years ago, to remove from his state the stigma which was left in the wake of the Huey Long dictatorship. It is a fact that Louisiana in recent years has made longer strides in aid to its unemployables, insane, blind, sick and deaf, than any other Southern state.

MAR 27 1943

It is also a fact that the Pelican State's Chief Executive fought and fought hard until the poll tax was abolished in Louisiana, and that he is an avowed friend of organized labor. And there is no doubt that he has been largely responsible for an annual appropriation of $300,000 to Southern University, the state's largest institution of higher learning for Negroes although he approaches this subject almost apologetically.

But the Governor treads on dangerous ground and leaves himself wide open to the accusation of giving preference to his own side of the argument when he asserts that, although President Roosevelt characterized the South as the nation's economic problem No. 1, he has since done nothing to relieve the South's disabilities. The **Richmond Times-Dispatch** says editorially of this charge that it is "almost too ridiculous to answer." And of the writer's attitude on the race question it says:

MAR 27 1943

> Some of the administration's policies are open to question, of course. There have been blunders and errors of judgment, needless to say. The attitude of certain administration spokesmen toward the race problem is a case in point. The question remains however, whether those policies would be appreciably different under a Republican regime.
>
> Governor Jones, former Governor Dixon, and the others who share their views, cannot hope to turn the clock back. The Negro is entitled to, and will receive in the future, a greater measure of justice, a more adequate role in public affairs ,and a more decent opportunity for advancement in the South, and the nation, than he has received in the past.
>
> This is in accord with the genius of our age. Governor Jones can no more halt the trend in this sphere than he can get back to prewar States' rights by proclaiming their virtues in the pages of the Saturday Evening Post.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NNC to Map War on Poll Tax

NEW YORK — The National Negro Congress at the meeting of its National Executive Board in Cleveland, September 26, will make plans to press for immediate passage of the anti-poll tax bill in the Senate, according to Edward Strong, national secretary.

The Congress in co-operation with other organizations supported the successful fight for passage of H.R.7 in the House this year, and has already committed itself to continue its efforts until the poll tax is removed as a qualification for voting.

The open session of the National Board will also act upon three other issues, including: crimination in the armed forces mobilization of the American peo- as an essential for victory; and full ple for coalition warfare and vic- participation of the colored group tory in 1943; total abolition of dis- in the 1944 elections.

52e-1943

Tennessee Court Rules Repeal of Poll Tax Illegal

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.
JUL 1943

Nashville, Tenn., July 3 (AP)—Repeal of the Tennessee State poll tax was declared unconstitutional today by the State Supreme Court.

The 3 to 2 opinion invalidated a law passed by the 1943 Legislature as climax to a political fight over repeal which had raged in the state for the past six years.

Repeal advocates were left only the possibilities of an appeal to the United States Supreme Court or amendment of the State Constitution—something which has never been accomplished during the seventy-three years of the present organic law's existence.

Possibility of appeal to the federal court was raised by Carlyle Littleton, Chattanooga Republican attorney, who asserted that the Tennessee poll tax law was in itself violative of the United States Constitution.

Would Require 3 Years.

Normal processes of attempting to amend the State Constitution would require a minimum effort of three years.

There is the alternative quick method of calling a constitutional convention, but it was regarded as improbable that Administration leaders, even though they had advocated the poll tax repeal, would resort to such measures.

The poll tax repeal law, passed by the 1943 Legislature with the backing of Gov. Prentice Cooper and E. H. Crump, Memphis Democratic leader, was challenged in the courts by Sheriff Burch Biggs, of Polk County, normally an East Tennessee ally of the Crump and Cooper forces.

The majority opinion by Justices Alan M. Prewitt, Frank H. Gailor and Alexander W. Chambliss said that supporters of repeal "frankly concede that this provision of the fundamental law (levying the tax) is mandatory," but that the question was whether, when the Legislature has executed its trust and put into operation a constitutional mandate, a subsequent Legislature might revoke and nullify the action.

Must Say "Shall Not."

It asserted that the general rule that one Legislature might undo the acts of another was recognized and if a Legislature refused to take action commanded by the Constitution, "the courts are without authority to enforce performance by affirmative decree."

The majority held, however, that once a constitutional command has been carried into execution, "the courts which may not say shall, have the authority and solemn obligation to say shall not."

Chief Justice Grafton Green, speaking for himself and Justice A. B. Neil said it was conceded the court could not have forced the Legislature to carry out the constitutional mandate to levy a poll tax and "just what gives the court the right to interfere if a subsequent legislature refuses to heed the mandate is not apparent."

Vito Charges Plot to Block Poll Tax Bill

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.
JUL 31 1943

WASHINGTON — In a statement that shook political circles here, fighting Congressman Vito Marcantonio on Sunday charged David Dubinsky of the ILGWU; Layle Lane, Harlem school teacher; and other members of the Workers Defense League with working "hand in glove with Martin Dies and John Rankin" in an effort to defeat HR 7.

The Congressman, who is loved by working people throughout the country for the forthright stand he has taken on labor issues, further charged the Dubinsky crowd with being guilty of "high treason to the cause of labor and the Negro people."

AFL STANDS SOLID

Declaring that they would not be able to split the American Labor Party despite all their efforts in that direction, Marcantonio described them as a "motley crew" which is at the present time seeking to win the support of labor in the coming American Labor Party primaries.

In making his charge against Dubinsky, Miss Lane and Julius Hochman, manager of Dubinsky's union, the Congressman stated that when there were 150 signatures on the Marcantonio discharge petition to force a vote on the anti-poll tax bill, the Dubinsky crowd wrote a letter to every member of the congressional coalition to withdraw support from the Marcantonio bill.

QUOTES MILGRIM

One portion of the Marcantonio statement was a quote from a letter written by Mosris Milgram, secretary of the Workers Defense League, in which he said: "I am writing you at the request of our board (Miss Lane, Hochman, George S. Counts, chairman of the State Committee of the ALP and others), to inform you that we feel an immediate switch should be made from the discharge petition for the Marcantonio bill to your own or one of the others."

In subsequent letters, Milgrim pointed out to congressmen that HR 7 would not win the support of the ALP, Railway Brotherhoods and several other labor groups.

Marcantonio's statement said that "at the time this vicious lie was uttered by this Dubinsky stooge, hundreds of AFL unions, Railway Brotherhoods and the CIO had gone on record in support of my bill. Yet the Counts, the Hochmans, the Lanes of the Dubinsky-controlled Workers Defense League were as busy as beavers trying to split support for anti-poll tax legislation."

Reveal Plot To Head Off Poll Tax Bill Vote

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia
JUL 31 1943

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON—(A N P) — The real strategy that is being used to head off a vote on anti-poll tax legislation in the senate was revealed this week end by persons close to the developing situation.

Already scheduled for a hearing before the full senate judiciary committee on Monday for the purpose of clarifying through debate an unusual precedure—the question of its constitutionality, the house-approved measure would ordinarily be expected to reach the floor of the senate soon after. As a matter of fact, this had been promised by Sen. Frederick Van Nuys (D) Indiana, committee, chairman, as long ago as Sept. 24.

HAGGLING OF SOLONS

When the bill was ready for a favorable report on Sept. 25, however, opponents within the judiciary committee, led by Sen. Tom Connally (D) of Texas and Sen. Carl Hatch (D) of New Mexico, insisted that the committee ought to have the benefit of the constituional discussion. After some haggling, the date was set for Oct. 25. It was hoped at that time that a vote would be taken within a week after so that the measure might be reported promptly. It develops now that the time of this vote is uncertain.

Meanwhile, the senate foreign relations committee last week reported a "middle-of-the-road" resolution dealing with the question of United States participation in a post-war preservation of the peace. Sen. Connally is the chairman of this committee. Immediately upon its presentation, Sen. Alben Barkley (D) Kentucky reminded the Texas legislator that he had intended asking that the subject be put on the calendar so that it might be taken up as finished business on Monday, Oct. 25. This was done.

The question of whether or not the United States ought to join in an international police force is a highly controversial question. The house approved the Fulbright resolution long ago, but the senate, it now develops purposely sauntered along for time.

WOULD DELAY VOTE

The probability is that the senate judiciary committee, in its consideration of the anti-poll tax bill, may require spokesmen for both sides of the question to present briefs. In that event, the committee might want time "to study" them. This will delay the committee vote.

All the while, the senate may find itself at loggerheads trying to agree on the foreign relations committee resolution, or a suitable substitute. The Ball-Burton-Hatch-Hill group have already declared their intentions of fighting for a stronger statement of U. S. post-war policy.

In this event, the first will go on long enough to keep the anti-poll tax off the floor even though it may reach the calendar. Congress is already eyeing a holiday recess, and Nov. 15 is the date that is being mentioned. The President's food-subsidy program is the only other measure that might arise.

The ABC of The Poll Tax

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

What Is the Poll Tax?

A tax on a person regardless of the ownership of property, the payment of which is required by seven Southern States before a citizen can exercise the right of Americans to vote.

What States Have These Laws?

Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, Arkansas, Virginia, South Carolina and Texas. (Tennessee recently repealed its poll tax law, but courts have ruled repeal unconstitutional. Matter is still before the courts.)

How Much Does a Citizen in These States Have to Pay Each Year Before Voting?

Alabama, $1.50; Arkansas, $1; South Carolina, $1; Georgia, $1; Mississippi, $2; Virginia, $1.50, and Texas, $1.

Must a Citizen Pay the Tax for More Than One Year Before He Is Able to Vote?

Yes. In some States back taxes must be paid. In Alabama for every year from the age of 21 to 45; in Georgia, from 21 to 60; in Virginia, for three years before voting; and in Mississippi for two years.

What Is the Largest Amount a Voter May Have to Pay?

Alabama, $36; Georgia, $47.74; Mississippi, $6; South Carolina, $1.05; Texas, $1.75; Virginia, $5.01; Arkansas, $2.

Why Was the Poll Tax Imposed on Voting?

In the Presidential election of 1940 only 27 per cent of the people 100; Mississippi, 15 out of 100; South Carolina, 11 out of 100; Virginia, 24 out of 100; Arkansas, 20 out of 100; Georgia, 19 out of 100; and Tennessee, 33 out of 100.

Upon Voters in These States?

In the eight States (including Tennessee) voted, as compared with 76 per cent in the other 100.

What Proportion of the Potential Voters in Each Poll Tax State Voted in That Election?

To take the vote away from the poor farmers and working people and keep the political control in the hands of a small class.

Is This the Result of Keeping Negroes Away From the Polls and Allowing Only the Whites to Vote?

No. Many white people are denied the right to vote by the Poll Tax. These figures represent the vote cast by white people only: Alabama, 28 out of 100; Arkansas, 29 out of 100; Georgia, 25 out of 100; Mississippi, 28 out of 100; South Carolina, 18 out of 100; Tennessee, 33 out of 100; Texas, 31 out of 100; and Virginia, 31 out of 100.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

FALSE PRETENSES

One argument advanced in support of disfranchisement by a poll tax made by some members of the County Court at the session held on Monday of this week shows that it doesn't take an abundance of gumption to be a member of the Davidson County Court.

It was the argument that restoration of the disfranchising tax was necessary to reach a class of voters who never pay any taxes, at all. To hear such an argument around a country store where the cracker-barrel orators and philosophers gather to discuss the "problems of state" is no matter of surprise or concern. But to hear it from men occupying seats in the governing body of a great county like Davidson, shows that the public is to be condemned for not having insisted that all members of a County Court should be required to be possessors of at least an 8th-grade education or its equivalent before being allowed to qualify as candidates for the honorable office of county squire.

It must have been exasperating to Mr. Harry Nelson, one of the members of the County Court, to be compelled to take time off from very important items of his discussion to enlighten those members who hold that there is a horde of citizens of this county "who never pay any taxes."

Taxes are paid in the sweat of those who labor, said President Roosevelt a number of years ago. He, at the same time, stated that even though an individual may not ever go direct to the tax collector or receive a tax bill, he nevertheless was taxed and he paid the taxes assessed against him.

The person who rents even a miserable shack and pays his rent, as he must, pays all of the taxes that the city or county assesses against that shack. The fact is the taxes paid by the toiling masses, proportionately are the biggest sums of tax- paid in this or any other county. Bonanzas to taxpayers are almost wholly reaped by the rich and powerful individuals and concerns of every community. This is especially true in Davidson County. The chief reason why men like Mayor Thomas L. Cummings and the Hon. George H. Cate are fought so bitterly by the rich rulers of Davidson County is because they have advocated the equalization of tax burdens. Mayor Cummings has acquired the undying hatred of interests, which prior to his becoming Mayor, paid taxes on great holdings that represented fraud of the plainest kind.

It is true that corporations and business concerns appear to be the real "big shots" to the tax-gatherers. They issue large checks for the amounts for which they are assessed. But as a matter of fact the big tax-payers are nothing more than the "paying tellers" for their concerns and entitled to no more veneration than the paying tellers of banks. They are only paying to the tax gatherers the money they already have received from the consuming public which bought and paid for their goods of services.

Take out of Nashville and Davidson County the millions of dollars which the masses pay in hidden, consumer taxes and Nashville would shortly cease to be a great metropolitan city. This would be true also, if we took out of Nashville the millions of dollars paid in consumer taxes by the thousands of citizens here whom the Davidson County Court is ruthlessly disfranchising with a poll tax.

Those members of the County Court who reaffirmed the restoration of the county poll tax, which was put on the people's backs in a tricky manner last July, didn't have a single argument to support their action that squares with their pretensions of being believers in the fundamental principle of American democracy which says:

"All governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed."

They showed they believe in dictatorship—the right of an entrenched minority to deprive a majority of the citizens of a freedom for which patriots have suffered and died and for which even now the young men of the nation are fighting and dying on battlefields all over the world.

It would have been more candid for those who either voted to restore the poll tax or maneuvered to get a favorable vote for the restoration to have said that they simply wanted an advantage—a "drag"—which would enable them to control elections in Davidson County. Nothing else they said in support of their shoddy action makes sense.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

LET'S PAY THE TAX

Well, our honorable squires did not dictate to the County Trustee, telling him he is not to receive poll tax money from the plain people of this county. The fact is, that happens not to be a matter that they can do anything about. A way is left, therefore, for all citizens who put the proper value on their voting franchise to preserve it.

There is not an item of expense, including church dues, War Bonds, Community Chest donations, or anything else that should be looked after with more fidelity than the expense of maintaining one's place as a first class citizen in his community. We hold that no man or woman can list himself or herself as a FIRST CLASS citizen unless he or she QUALIFIES TO VOTE and actually VOTES in each and every election.

Poor people, especially, should qualify to vote and should always perform this duty on election day. Now that we know that there is a faction which boldly asserts that it wants to cut down the number of votes being cast in this county by the masses of the people, we ought to show them that they have not succeeded with their scheme by merely providing that we must pay a two dollar tax Sixty Days before an election. Show them that we can raise Two Dollars.

Let us remember the sacrifices that our fighting and dying boys are doing on foreign battlefields all over the world at this very hour. Let us get ready to have on hand TWO DOLLARS to pay the 1943 poll tax and pay it before the end of this year. That will entitle us to vote in all of the elections to be held in 1944, when we are to elect a President, a Governor, a Congressman, members of the legislature and county officers.

Avoid letting penalties pile up on the poll tax. Pay it before the "days of grace" expire. Pay it and send word to your husband, son, brother, kinsman or friends, now fighting for democracy, that we on the home front are paying a poll tax NOW and making definite arrangements to keep them from having to pay a tax if they get back home.

Poll Tax Bill Goes To Senate

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The House-approved anti-poll tax bill will be given a public hearing on October 25, following a 3-2 vote of the Senate Judiciary Committee to report the bill to the Senate.

Motion for the hearing was presented by Senator Hatch of New Mexico. The vote to report the bill was as follows: Senators Ernest W. McFarland (D., Ariz.), Abe Murdock (D., Utah) and John A. Danaher (R., Conn.) voted favorably. Senators Tom Connally (D., Tex.) and Warren R. Austin (R., Vt.) voted against.

The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, through its executive secretary, Mrs. Catherine Shryver, is protesting the hearings on October 25. Calling the hearing an attempt to "stall action on the bill," Mrs. Shryver said:

"Hearings were held for over 18 months in the last Congress and ample evidence of the constitutionality of the bill is, and has been available to the Senate Judiciary Committee for a long time. There is no valid need for further hearings on the bill. Since the Senate Judiciary Committee has so decided, however, the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax will secure the most eminent legal talent in the country to demonstrate the constitutionality of HR 7."

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

Committee To Report

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20—Chairman Van Nuys (D., Ind.) of the Senate judiciary committee, said today the committee will consider the anti-poll tax bill Friday and probably will report it favorably. Van Nuys said. "It's just a question of putting it on the calendar. Van Nuys said a sub-committee headed by Senator McFarland (Dem., Ariz.) would make a re- action would be taken immediately. "Everyone already has made up his mind on the question," Van Nuys said. "There will be a filibus- No doubt- ter."

Des Moines Register
Des Moines, Iowa

ANTI-POLL TAX BILL PASSAGE URGES

Washington, D. C.—Terming the "right of franchise" a fundamental, qualified American citizens who are prevented from voting by the poll tax laws, and strongly urging action on the anti-poll tax bill now before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Walter White, NAAC executive secretary, appealed this week by telegram to Senator Frederick Van Nuys, Committee chairman to report favorably on behalf of ten million, otherwise

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

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ABOLISH POLL TAX

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

H. R. 7, a bill to abolish the poll tax as a prerequisite for voting, will shortly be reported by the Senate Judiciary Committee to the floor of the Senate. Senator Bilbo of Mississippi has promised to conduct a fillibuster for eighteen months, if necessary, in order to defeat this legislation.

For our own part, we believe that a filibuster in war time is treasonable. It is just as though a soldier in the midst of battle were to lay down his arms and go on strike, for a filibuster represents the expression of a small minority who deliberately prevent the Senate from acting on any measure until the majority of the Senate agrees to drop the legislation to which the minority objects. It is fitting that the poll tax which disenfranchises 75 percent of the adult citizenry of eight Southern States should be protected from repeal by a minority filibuster of poll taxes.

The repeal of the poll tax has become a symbol of our faith in democracy, a sign of the integrity of our war effort.

George H. Bender, the Republican Congressman-at-Large from Ohio, believes the Republican Party has a real responsibility for the extension of the franchise to ten million American citizens, white and black, who are denied the ballot through the poll tax. But, in addition, we believe that the Democratic Party has a stake in poll tax repeal in that the Southern section of that party will be freed from the machine politics that now dominate it. Thus, poll tax repeal is a non-partisan issue which every American, conscious of the need to strengthen our democracy at home and our war effort abroad, can support withrout regard to party lines.

Public Pressure Needed To Secure Passage Of Anti-Poll Tax Measure

ON last February 13th, President Roosevelt, speaking to his Press Conference, denounced the levying of Poll Taxes, and said, that as a practice "the Poll Tax prevents many poor people in the Southern States from voting."

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

On May 25th, the lower House of Congress passed H.R. 7 a bill to abolish the Poll Tax by the astounding vote of 265 to 110. The enactment of this measure will enable six million Southern whites and four million blacks to exercise the franchise for the first time in their lives.

This bill is now before the Senate Judiciary Committee, and in order to become a law must be voted by this session of Congress.

There must be aggressive action to mobilize support of the Senate to pass this bill. All elements of voters must be organized to contact their Senators to rally to the full support of the program of our Commander-in-Chief to strengthen national unity. Abolition of the Poll Tax is a fight for genuine Democracy and, at this crucial period, a fight for the unity so essential to winning the war.

So write your Senator, today! Tell him why repeal of the undemocratic Poll Tax is a war measure.

Senator Bilbo of Mississippi, threatens "to filibuster the bill to death." Explain to your Senator that a filibuster in wartime is as treasonable as laying down arms.

Some other Poll Tax Senators are attempting to delay Senate action with needless hearings, crippling amendments and endless debates.

Tell your Senator that this delaying action plays directly into the hands of Hitler and our Axis enemies. Urge him to use his influence to have H. R. 7 reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee without hearings, without amendments and without delay.

And finally, urge your Senator to vote, if necessary, for cloture, which limits debate, and TO CONTINUE TO VOTE FOR CLOTURE until the filibuster is finally broken.

Finish Off The Poll Tax

Journal and Guide

More than any other citizen, the American Negro has been denied the day-to-day rights of democracy. The outstanding denial has been the right to vote in eight Southern States because of the poll tax, discriminatory registration laws, and the white primary. Because he is the poorest of the poor, the Negro is hit hardest by the poll tax requirement for voting in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

But the denial of democracy to ten millions Americans by means of a price tag on the ballot is not a purely Southern or Negro issue, as demagogic poll-tax Senators declare. The poll tax is a national—an American—issue. Walter White, secretary of the NAACP, has observed, "The denial to Negroes of the right to vote through such devices as the poll tax inevitably leads to the denial of the right of citizens of other races to vote." Of the ten million Southerners kept from voting by the poll tax, at least six million are white.

FILIBUSTERED TO DEATH

When Congress comes back to Washington in September, the anti-poll tax bill will be up again for Senate passage. In the last Congress, this highest legislative body shamefully permitted the Geyer-Pepper anti-poll tax bill to be filibustered to death by a handful of poll-tax Senators after it had passed the House by a 3-1 vote. These blustering poll-taxers threaten to repeat their performance this session. Senator Theodore (The Man) Bilbo, of Mississippi, has announced that he will filibuster for 18 months, if necessary.

Norfolk, Virginia

The only way to halt a filibuster of these enemies of democracy is to limit debate—or, in legislative language, "invoke cloture." To do this, a 2/3 vote of the Senate is necessary.

You, personally, can defeat Senator (The Man) Bilbo. You can write and urge your Senators to vote for cloture and to continue to vote for cloture (if the first cloture votes are not successful) until the filibuster is broken; then vote for the anti-poll tax bill itself (HR 7).

Your Senators must refuse to agree to a "gentlemen's agreement" to withdraw HR 7 from further consideration, if cloture does not succeed on the first vote.

MILLIONS IN POLITICAL PEONAGE

To America-at-War, the abolition of the poll tax has become a vital thread in the fabric of national war unity. It keeps millions of citizens in political peonage. It divides them from other Americans by keeping them from the experience of genuine democratic process. It is one of our greatest gifts to Axis propaganda.

It betrays the principles of the Declaration of Independence, makes mockery of the Constitution and sells short our soldiers, white and Negro, who are giving their lives for democracy. Once and for all the Senate must act to give ten million American citizens the right to vote.

Let your Senators hear from you, from your friends, and from every Negro organization. Ask them to stand up for passage of HR 7, and to vote for cloture.

THIS MORNING

by JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES

Birmingham, Ala.

"These are Clan Alpine's warriors true,
And, Saxon, I am Roderick Dhu!"

Age-Herald

In all the South there is no other governor with so much of the national eye now as Ellis Arnall has. Young, brave, enlightened, liberal, with Eugene Talmadge's scalp in his belt, Gov. Arnall is looked upon both in the North and the South as the figure on our Southern future, the Roderick Dhu of Dixie, the postwar man whose forward-looking is above and beyond the New Deal quarrels and the anarchies of the nineteen twenties. No party liner, he has a magnificent line of his own. No coattail hanger, he is sweeping the country with his own coattails, and being hung upon himself in gathering degrees.

* * *

Why isn't Ellis Arnall the man, then, to lead the way in making an end to the Southern poll tax by the South's own hand? Why isn't he the one to use this high tide of his prestige in Georgia to have Georgia abolish the tax of its own accord and give mighty example to Alabama, Virginia, South Carolina, Mississippi, Tennessee and the rest. The issue is up in Georgia now and Ellis Arnall is up, too. The time, place and man have met. Even as he joins in ceaseless Southern opposition to federal interference on a matter too delicate to let such interference be, Gov. Arnall has destiny's own sign to do the second thing with the first. The first thing is to oppose the bill at Washington. The second thing is to destroy the tax with

Because he is an enlightened Southerner, in foremost files of Southern time, Gov. Arnall knows the poll tax has nothing really to do with the race question. He knows it is the white man's tax. Negro, who is most hurt, He knows that sense and not dollars.

risk his political future, to be sure, forming prisons, and standing up The poll tax has been made a bug-aboo dangerous for any man to handle, especially since the Wash-ington meddlers began. But Ellis Arnall is a brave man, they say, and yet Southern a statesman. He is a man willing to take the great chances and reap the top re-wards. He is not one to live his political life in his hands—and things like fighting freight rates, giving 18-year-old people votes, re-

What an answer to uncomprehending and meddling outsiders if, even while a righteous filibuster against the federal bill goes on, Georgia should lead the way in repeal of the tax by its own action that we Southerners who believe in states' rights believe, too, in states' duties and in all the democracy we can hold!

For Ellis Arnall to do this would

South, to have the Southern stand for states' rights proved in such excellence from a Southern state! Sense, not dollars, should be the requisite for voting in the South. The slogan is the governor's in fee simple if he will take it at this witching hour!

In The Nation

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Poll-Tax Repeal and the Constitution

SEP 30 1943

ARTHUR KROCK

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29—Many laymen who listen to or read about the hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee next month on the perennial bill to repeal the prevailing State poll-taxes will once again find themselves bewildered by flat differences of opinion among lawyers as to the meaning of plain language.

One side will argue that Section 2, Article I, of the Constitution makes crystal-clear that the States, and not Congress, within stated limits can prescribe the "qualifications" of voters in elections to Federal as well as to State offices. The other will say that, while that is undoubtedly true, it does not apply in this instance because a poll-tax is not a "qualification" in the meaning of the Constitution.

The bill before the Judiciary Committee would repeal payment of State poll-taxes as a qualification precedent to voting in primaries or elections at which the President, Vice President, their electors, or candidates for Congress are to be selected. The constitutionality of this bill has been so gravely questioned by eminent lawyers, and is apparently rendered so doubtful by the section of the Constitution cited above, that Chairman Van Nuys of the committee has set Oct. 25 for a public hearing on the issue and has invited Attorney General Biddle, among others, to give his views.

After listening to the lawyers, the committee will decide whether to report the bill to the Senate favorably or otherwise. If the former, the measure will encounter the usual filibuster, and, should it weather that process and come to enactment, the arguments before the committee will doubtless be repeated before the Supreme Court in a test suit brought by one of the poll-taxing States. A review of the pros and cons of the issue will serve to explain the legal nature of the dispute.

The Language Used

Those who insist that Congress has no power to repeal State poll-taxes, in Federal or any other elections, rest their case simply on the language of Section 2, Article I. This provides that "The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several States, and the electors [voters] in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors [voters] of the most numerous branch of the State Legislature." Elsewhere in the Constitution the same words are used concerning voting qualifications in the elections of Senators.

From this it is contended that if language means what it says: States may impose poll-taxes on voters for Federal office if poll-taxes are also prerequisite to voting in those States for members of the State House of Representatives; Congress, therefore, has no power to repeal this prerequisite where it is imposed; and double proof of this is afforded by the fact that the Constitution leaves to the States even the methods of choosing Presidential electors, governing the selection of the highest of Federal officials, the President himself.

The lawyers who take this view, and one of those chief exponents is Mr. Jesse F. Orton of the New York City Bar, quote freely from debates in the constitutional Congress on Article I in support of their argument. The debaters cited all agreed that voting qualifications would have to be left to the States if the Constitution was to achieve ratification, after which the language of Section 2, Article I, was unanimously adopted.

It is further pointed out by this group that whenever legal challenge has been made of the right of States to fix voters' qualifications, the high courts have unfailingly held that this right exists unless the restrictions are plainly based on race, creed, color, previous condition of servitude or—later —sex.

What Is a "Qualification"?

The argument in favor of the constitutionality of the poll-tax repeal bill is more complicated. But in a pamphlet now being circulated it is sponsored by able lawyers, including Dean Garrison of the Wisconsin School of Law and Professor Borchard of Yale. Opinions written by Chief Justice Stone and Associate Justice Jackson are cited in support of the argument, which is this:

The basic question is whether the payment of a poll-tax is a "qualification" in the sense used in Section 2, Article I. This payment has no "rational relationship" to a citizen's capacity to participate in the choice of public officials. "A man's mere property status * * * cannot be used by a State to test, qualify or limit his rights as a citizen of the United States. * * * The mere state of being without funds is a neutral fact—consequently an irrelevance, like race, creed or color." [Justice Jackson, Edwards v. California.] The poll-tax test is even more "irrelevant" than a property test.

Congress has affirmative power to regulate Federal elections to protect the rights of citizens as stated in general in the Constitution. A constitutional amendment is not necessary to bar the poll-tax, which is an invasion of those rights, as a voting prerequisite in Federal elections. A statute is sufficient.

This is a necessarily brief statement of the legal issue. But politics and what is known as "judicial statesmanship" will greatly influence the legislative and court solution.

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

NO POLL TAX IN THIS GEORGIA TOWN

Vidalia, Ga., Aug. 27. (ANP)—This community prides itself on being the only one in the state where collection of poll taxes is not a prerequisite to becoming a qualified voter in municipal elections. The poll tax payments was dispensed with by an amendment to the city charter introduced by State Rep. T. Ross Sharpe and passed by the general assembly this year.

Voters in the primary will be merely required to register and take the oath. Eighteen-year-olds are eligible to participate for the first time.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Senate Gets Poll Tax Bill Friday

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—The Senate will hear debate on the long-awaited anti-poll tax bill Friday. Chairman Frederick Van Nuys (D. Ind.) of the Senate Judiciary committee disclosed Monday that a favorable report on the judiciary sub-committee was expected, and that the legislation will be then rushed through the full committee.

There will be no public hearings in an effort to delay the bill which was passed last Spring by the House of Representatives.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Anti-Poll Tax Bill Comes Up Monday

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23—(AP)—The Senate judiciary committee today deferred action on an anti-poll tax measure (H. 7), until Monday, Chairman Van Nuys (D), Indiana, said today.

The delay was due to the absence of Senator Murdock (D), Utah, member of a subcommittee scheduled to present its views on the bill Van Nuys said. He expressed belief the question would be disposed of at the Monday meeting. The bill would bar the poll tax as a requirement for voting in elections for president and members of Congress.

endorsed the proposals of the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, and called upon the Senate judiciary committee to report HR 7 to the floor of the Senate not later than November 15.

This was the first action on this question of vital importance to the Negro that has been taken by the New England branch of the Civil Liberties group. For several weeks officers and members of the organization, usually headed by Sub-Mary E. Sanger, its executive secretary, have been 'cornering' the Massachusetts Senators and Congressmen and demanding that they guarantee action on the abolition of the right upon their return to Washington.

In an exclusive statement to the Amsterdam News Miss Sanger said that "I agree with our chairman that the abolition of the Poll Tax issued by the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax is an issue of democracy which concerns every citizen of the United States. Here in Massachusetts we are eager to join this important fight. At a time when national unity is vital, lack of confidence in the integrity of Congress may well be occasioned by any unnecessary delay in the abolition of this serious blemish on the face of American democracy."

NNC Renews Fight To Abolish Poll Tax

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Urges Support Of Opposition Moves

NEW YORK—(SNS)—Moving to intensify the campaign to secure immediate passage of H. R. 7, when Congress reconvenes in September, the National Negro Congress has called upon all local councils and affiliates to give full support to the National Anti-Poll Tax Week, October 17 to 23, and simultaneously urged all New York State voters to put Senators Wagner and Meade on the record for quick passage of the measure.

The directives to New York State voters were contained in a leaflet issued by the New York State Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax urging all citizens to "Take Pen in Hand Today, commit your Senators to vote for passage of H. R. 7. The marchasked to support the Poll Tax will Campaign to pass H. R. 7 in the to victory Senators know the Senate by writing New York Sen- Albert Sprague Coolidge, this week

ators Wagner and Meade; and Senators Van Nuys and McFarland, Chairman of Judiciary Committee, and Chairman, Sub-Committee on H. R. 7, respective-ly, to:

1. Vote for
7. Vote for cloture.
2. Vote for
3. Vote against all amendments.
4. Resist all efforts to delay passage of the Bill.

Meanwhile, the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax issued

Backs Program

In Washington

BOSTON.—The weight of Massachusetts' liberal and progressive forces was added to the impetus for immediate action in Congress on the abolition of the poll tax when the Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, through its chairman, Dr. Albert Sprague Coolidge, this week

52e-1943

Poll Tax



People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE voted last Monday to launch a defensive, delaying action against Anti-Poll Tax Bill by means of drawn out hearings. New York State Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax met at 347 Madison av, to counteract these back-door tactics by increased offensive action. Present were (l. to r.): L. A. Mason NAACP, Brooklyn; Rev. H. B. M. Scott, Brooklyn; Vernon G. Ward, Flushing; Thelma Stevens, 5th Ave. Methodist Church; Elsie Sitt, NY School Social Work; Richard Marford; Frances M. Williams, Natl. Federation Constitutional Liberties; Thelma Dale, Natl. Negro Congress; Lois Colman, ILD; Frederic Kramer, Council for Reconstruction; Clifford T. McAvoy, CIO.—McAlpin foto.

Senate Body in New Poll Tax Filibuster

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Adam Lapin

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—A quiet and unspectacular but nonetheless effective filibuster against the anti-poll tax bill is being waged inside the Senate Judiciary Committee.

After hearing CIO Counsel Lee Pressman and Rep. William Dawson of Illinois, lone Negro Congressman, argue that the measure is constitutional, the committee adjourned its hearings this morning until next Tuesday.

The official explanation is that the committee has other work including hearings on a bill which would exempt insurance companies from the operations of the anti-trust law.

But the fact remains that the hearings on the constitutionality issue, which had been thoroughly explored by the committee last year, have dragged out from one day to more than a week.

Pressman showed a firm grasp of the constitutional issues involved and won compliments from Senator Carl Hatch, who doubts the constitutionality of the bill.

Pressman insisted both in a prepared statement and in his remarks before the committee that it "should not be necessary for this committee to be convinced beyond a shadow of doubt that Congress has the power to enact this legislation."

"It is legislation," he declared, "which is a vital necessity in the present national emergency. There is a constitutional basis for it which I am convinced and which the authorities indicated is impeccable."

Pressman insisted that "it is the duty of this Congress to act in the light of the nation's needs and to leave to the Supreme Court the final determination, a determination which I am conviced would be favorable to this legislation."

Pressman engaged in a rough and tumble debate with Senators Joseph O'Mahoney and Hatch on the issue of a constitutional amendment as against a bill to repeal the poll tax.

The CIO Counsel pointed out that a constitutional amendment would involve interminable delay.

QUESTION OF LAW

Senator Hatch declared that he agreed with the objective of H.R. 7, the anti-poll tax introduced by Rep. Vito Marcantonio of New York but that there is "a question of law" involved.

Pressman said this reminded him of those to whom the President once referred in a speech as his "yes-but" supporters.

"Let me tell you," O'Mahoney angrily broke in "that Roosevelt wouldn't have been elected in 1940 if it hadn't been for the yes-but votes."

Rep. Dawson urged immediate action on the bill. He declared that passage of the measure "will restore the right of participation in the national government to those who need it most to raise their standard of living."

Dawson said that disenfranchisement has been so complete in the eight poll tax states that "the question is raised whether or not a republican form of government longer exists in these states."

AFL General Counsel Joseph Padway appeared before the committee yesterday, and with today's hearing the anti-poll tax forces completed their showing on the constitutionality of the measure.

The three witnesses to be heard next Tuesday will argue that H. R. 7 is not constitutional. While Judiciary Committee aides said they did not know who would appear against the bill, it is expected that they will be attorney generals of three of the poll tax states.

New Republic
New York, N. Y.

The Anti-Poll Tax Bill

SIR: The enclosed clipping from a recent issue of The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot speaks for itself:

Not only is the anti-poll-tax bill . . . unconstitutional, in the opinion of most lawyers and all laymen who have read Article 1, Section 2, of the Constitution, but its effect would be bad on its merits, the Norfolk Kiwanis Club was told yesterday by Braden Vandeventer, local attorney.

Vandeventer said it was never the intention of the authors of the Constitution to set up a democracy in the United States, but a qualified democracy based on the republican representative system. In the light of their intentions, voting never has been a "cheap right" enjoyed by all, but a privilege accorded to the worthy. . . .

Elimination of the poll-tax restriction on voting would be a long step toward universal suffrage, Vandeventer said, a system which, if it were imposed by federal authority as an infringement on traditional states' rights, would be an unmixed evil, leading perhaps to conditions similar to those existing in Reconstruction days. . . .

Needless to say, the expression of such sentiments by an educated and probably respectable American is discouraging to all of us who really believe that we are fighting for a better, freer world. The battle against such ideas and philosophies at home is as important as the battle abroad. You are doing more than your share.

Norfolk, Va. D. R. GIDNEY

Poll-Tax Filibusterers Win Fresh Stall on Bill

PM
New York, N. Y.

Hearing on Constitutionality Is Recessed Until Next Week

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—Poll taxers gained another week or two in their long-range filibuster against the anti-poll tax bill today, when the Senate Judiciary Committee recessed its hearings on constitutionality of the measure until next week.

After hearing the last of three witnesses arguing for constitutionality of the measure, the Committee postponed hearing the three opponents until next Tuesday. If their testimony is dragged out, as it was last year, it probably will be the end of next week or later before the Committee completes what originally was scheduled as a single day of testimony.

No Protests

Chairman Frederick Van Nuys (D., Ind.) announced the postponement at the conclusion of yesterday's hearing. Not a protest was heard from his Committee—which is playing into the hands of the filibusterers without any fight from the bill's advocates.



William L. Dawson
Photo by Harris & Ewing

The last witnesses favoring the bill were Lee Pressman, general counsel of the CIO, and Rep. William L. Dawson, (D., Ill.), the only Negro member of Congress. Both emphasized the millions of voters disfranchised by the poll tax.

Dawson said the poll-tax laws were adopted between 1889 and 1908 "with the avowed intention and specific purpose of restricting large numbers of citizens in the

Contending that Congress has the right to abolish the poll tax under the clause in the Constitution giving the Federal Government authority to "guarantee to every state a republican form of government," Dawson said:

'Vicious System'

"The reins of government are in the hands of a small minority who, by virtue of the control of all state agencies, has entrenched itself in power, and is perpetuate itself in power by reason of corruption

fraud and trickery.

"No man who is honest with himself, and knows the viciousness of the poll-tax system, believes that the poll tax was adopted for the purpose of raising revenue. The passage of this bill will restore the right of participation in national government to those who must need to raise their standard of living."

Dawson said that in the poll-tax states school expenditures were less than half the national average and the homicide rate was more than three times that of the rest of the country.

Pressman said the poll tax was "simply a legal trickery" to favor a particular class of candidates for office. He said Congress has not only the right, but the duty to abolish it.

Voters Flood Senators With Mail, Telegrams

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30—Passage of the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill by the Senate at this session was predicted this week by those closely associated with Congressional leaders. Several sound and logical reasons for the prediction are advanced:

1. Pressure directed at the Senate by national organizations, colored and white leaders, and millions of voters scattered throughout the country.

2. The Senate-passed Soldiers and Sailors' vote bill last year which prohibits any poll tax as a condition upon the right of soldiers and sailors to vote.

CLOTURE RULE PLANNED

Even though poll tax senators, again led by Bilbo, of Mississippi, have threatened a filibuster when the bill reaches debate, senators favoring passage of the bill have declared the cloture rule will be invoked to limit debate. If cloture requires a two-thirds majority of the senators present. If cloture fails on the first vote, it may be voted upon again and again.

On August 25, 1942, the Senate passed the Soldiers and Sailors' vote bill which is now law. On the Pepper amendment prohibiting any poll tax as a condition upon the right of soldiers and sailors to vote, the Senate, by a vote of 33 to 20, for the first time in 70 years acted to broaden the suffrage in the South.

ONLY FIVE AGAINST

On the final roll call on the bill itself with the anti-poll tax amendment, only five senators voted "No." They were Byrd, of Virginia; George and Russell, of Georgia; Connally, of Texas, and Radcliffe, of Maryland. The two votes on this bill, therefore, clearly show Senate in favor of poll tax repeal.

It is believed that the poll tax repeal bill will be met by the senators with an eye on the important 1944 Presidential elections. At the moment, senators are receiving mail and telegrams from voters, national organizations and recognized leaders urging them to vote "Yes" when the bill comes up for vote. They are being asked to give Negroes and poorer whites in the poll tax states the right to cast free votes in a democratic country.

Three months after the bill passed the House during the last Congress, a handful of poll tax senators, led by Bilbo, succeeded in filibustering to death. This filibuster could have been defeated if the other senators already on record in favor of poll tax repeal had voted for cloture to limit a debate. The motion to invoke cloture was lost on November 23, 1942, by a vote of 37 to 41, and a "gentlemen's agreement" between the Senate forces favoring the bill and filibusters dropped the measure and thus killed it for the 77th Congress.

No-Vote Tax

PM
New York, N. Y.

Dear Editor:

I propose that after Congress repeals the poll tax, it establish a new "poll tax" but not one to keep people *from* voting. I propose that each person who does not vote, although eligible, should be taxed, let us say, $2. This would make our government more democratic and

Bronx SAMUEL SCHECTER

Legal Barrier Belittled On Anti-Poll-Tax Bill

PM
New York, N. Y.

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9. — The Senate Judiciary Committee, which has the anti-poll tax bill under consideration, was warned today by Prof. E. Merrick Dodd, of Harvard Law School, that "Senators who take refuge in constitutional doubts" as an excuse for delaying or opposing the measure are doing a disservice to the cause of democracy."

The Senate group, headed by Sen. Frederick Van Nuys (D., Ind.) upon receiving a favorable report from its subcommittee on abolition of the tax in Federal elections, recently postponed hearings for a month and announced that the validity of the poll tax would then be debated on constitutional grounds.

Dodd, in a statement addressed to the Judiciary Committee, said that "many constitutional lawyers believe that the Supreme Court would hold that the payment of a poll tax has nothing to do with a person's capacity to vote intelligently and that Congress can so declare."

"Such a pronouncement by Congress," Dodd continued, "would be of great value as a demonstration of faith in the principles of democracy," even if a constitutional amendment is required to make the pronouncement legal.

The Harvard professor asserted that should the Supreme Court rule against the anti-poll tax bill, its adoption by Congress would be an indorsement of the "democratic principle that no American citizen ought to be disenfranchised because of property."

Poll Tax Report Hailed As Victory

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — A favorable report to the Senate Judiciary committee by the McFarland Sub-committee considering Hr 7, the bill to abolish the poll tax, was hailed as a major victory by the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, and other organizations interested in securing for 10 million Americans the right to exercise the franchise in eight southern states.

Sen. Ernest W. McFarland (D) of Arizona, and his committee has gained the first round in a long battle to get final Senate approval of the bill which was passed by the House of Representatives by a vote of 365 to 110 on May 25.

A decision of the full judiciary committee, however to delay action until constitutionality arguments could be heard on Oct. 25 is viewed here as a last ditch attempt on the part of the opposition to stall action on the bill.

Citing that no further delay is necessary in reporting the bill from the judiciary committee, it was emphasized, "This is a war measure. When success of our boys in battle in the suburbs of Naples and the wilds of New Guinea is a matter of minutes and hours, it is particularly unfortunate to have congress delay for a whole month in taking up a bill that will give ten million Americans the right to vote, the right to a full democracy for which our soldiers all over he world are fighting and dying."

Poll Tax Bill To Be Debated On Air

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

NEW YORK CITY—(S N S)—The poll tax has been used in many states to restrict the right to vote and will be tackled verbally by four Representatives, two Republicans and two Democrats, when Granik's "American Forum of the Air" over WATL Mutual network, Tuesday (October 26) 8:30 to 7:15 p. m., CWT, from Washington's Hotel Shoreham.

Representatives Joseph C. Baldwin (R) of New York, and Warren G. Magnuson (D) of Washington, of Alabama and Frank Fellows (R) of Maine will speak in the opposition.

Hearings on the bill are scheduled to start before the Senate Judiciary Committee next week. The bill already has been passed in the House.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Antipoll Tax Bill to Go 'On Trial' Monday

With all of the legal arguments and procedure of a court, the Senate Judiciary Committee will place the House-passed antipoll tax bill "on trial" for constitutionality at unique hearings Monday in the Senate caucaus room.

Three spokesmen for the bill, and three chosen opponents, will be confined entirely to legal arguments in their testimony, with all evidence barred on "the merits." The committee agreed on this procedure recently before a final show-down on the bill, and Chairman Frederick Van Nuys said it will be strictly enforced.

Following the constitutionality test, the committee will vote on the bill which last year split the Senate wide open in a Southern Democratic filibuster that killed the measure. Early this year the House repassed the poll tax ban, and a Senate Judiciary Subcommittee recently favorably reported it, 3 to 2.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Changes Face Poll Tax Bill

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—(AP)—Jerking back the curtains for a quick preview of the filibuster in the making, two southern senators announced tonight they are preparing "several hundred amendments" to the antipoll tax bill and estimated that weeks will be required for their consideration.

The two, Senator Eastland, Democrat, Mississippi, and Senator McClellan, Democrat, Arkansas, said they would join "a large number of other senators from every section of the country" in combatting the house-approved bill which would eliminate payment of a poll tax as a prerequisite for voting in elections for federal officials.

They charged the bill was sponsored principally by the Communist party and "also the radical hybrid American Labor party in the Democratic organization." It was approved Friday, 12 to 6, by

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The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Assembly Ok's 18-Year Vote, Senate Kills It

MAR 27 1943

By Sender Garlin
(Daily Worker Staff Correspondent)

ALBANY, March 26.—The Assembly, by a vote of 77 to 50, passed the Davidson Bill lowering the voting age from 21 to 18 in the closing hours of the 1943 legislative session.

The measure, part of the State New Deal Democratic program, received only one more than the 76 votes necessary for passage. It was promptly rushed to the Senate where it was referred to committee over strenuous objections from minority leader John J. Dunnigan. This kills the bill for the present session and places the responsibility for its demise on the Republican majority.

MAR 27 1943

The measure, part of the State New Deal Democratic program, received only one more than the 76 votes necessary for passage. It was promptly rushed to the Senate where its fate was in doubt.

With adjournment set for 4 P. M. clocks in both houses of the Legislature were stopped at 3:55 while bills were being ground out endlessly.

MAR 27 1943

ALBANY DEVELOPMENTS

Developments of the crowded day included:

1—A special message from Governor Thomas E. Dewey, accompanied by legislation, for $5,500,000 in wage increases for State employees.

MAR 27 1943

2—Passage of the Moffat Bill appropriating $2,500,000 for wartime care of children.

3—The apparent refusal of legislative leaders to go along with the Feinberg - Reoux Bill penalizing minority parties.

4. Unanimous adoption by the Senate of resolution by Assemblyman Hulan Jack, Negro Democrat from Harlem, memorializing Congress to adopt Vito Marcantonio's Bill (HR 7) outlawing the poll tax. The resolution had previously passed th Assembly.

5. Passage of a resolution for post-war cooperation between various nations.

MAR 27 1943

6. Legislative approval of a Dewey--demanded Bill permitting the appointment of a layman instead of a physician as Commissioner of the State Mental Hygiene Dpartment. Democratic leaders assailed the measure as the first step toward Republican political control over the State's institutions, charging that political appointees would replace qualified medical men.

MAR 27 1943

DEMOCRATIC BASE

In the Assembly fight over the 18-year-old bill Assemblyman Davidson speaking for the Democratic minority, declard:

"We're interested in broadening the base of Democracy. We're interested in having young people of 18 vote, whether they're in the armed forces or not."

In closing the debate for the opposition Majority leader Irving M. Ives argued that adoption of the amendment "will have no effect whatsoever on anyone now called into the service.

MAR 27 1943

"Every child of 18, 19 or 20 would get the franchise under the proposed measure," Ives declared. Through out his speech he made frequent use of the word "child" and "children" in referring to the provisions of the amendment.

When all other arguments failed Ives raised the legalistic spectre of "contractual relationships," asserting that statutory provisions which now bar these under 21 from contract liabilities would be nullified by the adoption of the Davidson Bill. Ives was effectively answered on this point by Assemblyman Louis L. Friedman, Brooklyn Democrat.

MAR 27 1943

DEFENDS CHILD AID CUTS

Assemblyman Abbot Low Moffat, Manhattan Republican and chairman of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee was forced to defend Governor Dewey's action in cutting the State appropriation for child care by $2,500,000. When the Moffat - Hammond came up for vote, Assemblyman Sidney Moses, Manhattan Democrat, pointed out "two glaring defects" and sought to remedy them by suwitable amendments.

MAR 27 1943

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

TENNESSEE COURT UPHOLDS POLL TAX

MAY 8 1943

Rules '43 Repeal Law Violates Constituiton as Argued by Polk County Sheriff

MAY 8 1943

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BENTON, Tenn., May 7—The effort of the Tennessee General Assembly to remove the State's 53-year-old tax barrier from its ballot boxes lost the first round in the courts today when Chancellor T. L. Stewart of Winchester ruled that the repeal statute violated the State Constitution. Chancellor Stewart is the father of Senator Tom L. Stewart.

MAY 8 194

Filed under the Tennessee Declaratory Judgment Act, the litigation will be appealed to the State Supreme Court and is expected to be argued next month.

Along with the poll tax repeal statute, Chancellor Stewart declared unconstitutional a companion act, setting up a State-wide permanent registration system. However, the General Assembly had prescribed that if the poll tax legislation were found unconstitutional it was the legislative intent that the registration statute must also fall. Tennessee's registration laws were applicable only to municipalities of 2,500 or more and counties of 50,000 or more until the current statute undertook to extend it to all counties and municipalities in the State.

MAY 8 194

The litigation challenging the constitutionality of the poll tax repeal law was filed by Sheriff Birch E. Briggs of Polk County, who was the principal opponent of the movement in the Assembly. Sheriff Biggs contended that the removal of the poll tax barrier would threaten Tennessee with Republican rule. The poll tax statute sought to repeal the poll tax as a revenue measure and as a prerequisite to voting.

The 1870 Constitution of the State contains several provisions relating to poll tax and to voting. Section 28 of Article 2 provides that "all male citizens of this State over the age of 21 years except such persons as may be exempted by law on account of age or infirmity, shall be liable to a poll tax of not less than 50 cents nor more than $1 per annum." The Tennessee poll tax levy in 1942 was $1. Section 1 of Article 4 of the Constitution provides further:

"There shall be no qualification attached to the right of suffrage except that each voter shall give to the judges of the election where he offers to vote satisfactory evidence that he has paid the poll taxes assessed against him for such preceding period as the Legislature shall prescribe and at such time as may be prescribed by law, without which the vote cannot be received, and all male citizens of the State shall be subjected to the payment of poll taxes and to the performances of military duty within such ages as may be prescribed by law."

MAY 8 194

Virginia AFL Machinists Aid Poll Tax Fight

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

PORTSMOUTH, Va., May 10.—Members of Lodge 441, International Association of Machinists, AFL, a large Navy Yard local, have unanimously voted their support of the anti-poll tax bill, sponsored in Congress by Representative Vito Marcantonio of New York.

The machinists at the same time denounced the Hobbs anti-labor bill as a blow to the war effort. The Hobbs bill, says the resolution, would stifle the labor movement that is giving its full strength to the war against "Nazi terror and Hitler domination."

The antipoll tax resolution was sent to Congressmen Winder R. Harris and J. W. Flanagan, the Tidewater representativee, with demands for immediate action in support of the bill.

Local 144, which passed this resolution to abolish the poll tax in Virginia and six other southern states, where ten million poor whites and Negroes are disfranchised, is in District 44 of the I. A. of M. whose New York District president N. P. Alifas, is anti-Negro.

Anti-Poll Bill Signing Hailed As Major Win

MAY 1 5 194

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

MAY 15 194

WASHINGTON, DC—A death blow to the biggest blot on the American scene was administered here Thursday, May 6, when the 218th signature was added to the anti-poll tax petition sponsored by Rep. Vito Marcantonio and a coalition of congressmen.

MAY 15 194

This guarantees a vote on and almost certain passage of anti-poll tax legislation in the House. The vote will be taken May 24 on HR 7, and Marcantonio is urging all organizations and individuals to write to the congressmen advising them to resist efforts to load the measure with amendments, and to be present on the floor of the House on that day.

MAY 15 194

The petition was introduced March 7, and was completed in one day less than two months—a record as far as petitions go. The speed and success with which the petition was signed is largely due to the fact that a seven-man coalition composed of congressmen of varying political views united and solicited signatures.

NAME THOSE WHO FOUGHT

Chairman of the coalition is Rep. George Bender, Ohio Republican. Other members include Rep. Joseph Baldwin, NY Republican; Warren Magnunson, Washington Democrat, William Dawson, Illinois Republican; Joseph Gavegan, NY Democrat; Thomas Scanlon, Pennsylvania Democrat and Marcantonio, American Laborite, NY.

The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax praised the cooperation of the CIO, AFL, Railroad Brotherhood, NAACP and the National Farmers Union. The Committee has stated that completion of the petition revealed the "overwhelming sentiment of the American people to remove the disgraceful blot of the poll tax."

BLOW AT POLL TAXES

Action on the poll tax got under way after the March 9 Washington conference called by the NCAPT which attracted delegates from civic, religious, labor, and women's organizations. It was at this conference that the formation of a coalition of congressmen was announced. Walter White of the NAACP was one of the principal speakers.

Success of the fight is regarded as a powerful blow at the poll tax in the Senate. Every American who wants to bring Democracy to ten million voteless Negro and white citizens should wire his congressman now to vote for HR 7 and to vote for no amendments."

State Senate Backs Anti-Poll Tax Bill

(Daily Worker Staff Correspondent)

ALBANY, March 26. — The Senate passed unanimously today without debate on the eve of adjournment the resolution by Assemblyman Hulan Jack, Negro Democrat from Harlem, memorializing Congress to adopt H. R. 7 outlawing the poll tax.

The bill is sponsored by Representative Vito Marcantonio and has the backing of a congressional coalition.

Mr. Jack's resolution was passed by the Assembly about two weeks ago.

Petition To File Rehear Tax Suit

(SNS) — A petition to rehear the anti-poll tax suit of Tennessee was filed with the Eastern Division of the State Supreme Court Thursday.

JUL 23 1943

Tennessee's legislature invalidated the poll tax in its last session, but the Supreme Court came along and said the legislation was unconstitutional.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

POLL TAX ON HOUSE CALENDAR

Pittsburgh Courier

Discharge Petition Signed—Vote Will Be Taken Monday, May 24

MAY 15 1943

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 13—In the face of threats of Southern poll tax Congressmen to revolt the Democratic party, the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill (H.R.7) seemed certain of passage next week when it comes to a vote in the House on May 24, following the successful completion last week of House Discharge Petition No. 3. Two hundred and eighteen congressmen, 128 Republicans, 86 Democrats, two Progressives, one Farmer-Laborite and one American Laborite signed the petition discharging the House Committee on the Judiciary, controlled by poll-taxer Hatton W. Sumners of Texas, from further consideration of the measure. Once it passes the House, the bill will be sent to the Senate Committee on Judiciary where, if it is reported favorably, it will come to the floor of the Senate for a vote.

MAY 15 1943

FILIBUSTER THREATENS

Although the Geyer anti-poll tax bill followed a similar course last year, of House passage and favorable report to the Senate, it was filibustered to death by a minority of poll tax Senators. Leaders of the anti-poll tax fight are highly optimistic that a different story will be told this year. They point out that the Senators would have to conduct their filibuster more than one year instead of only a few weeks as was the case last year. "One year is a long time to talk even for Bilbo of Mississippi," said one of them.

Congressman Vito Marcantonio, author of the bill and leader of the present fight for poll tax repeal, had high praise for the role played by The Pittsburgh Courier and other Negro papers and organizations. In a statement last week he paid particular tribute for the aid he received from Congressmen George H. Bender (Ohio); William L. Dawson, (Ill.), Joseph V. Gavagan, (N. Y.), Tom E. Scanlon, (Pa.), and Warren G. Magnuson (Wash.).

MAY 15 1943

WARN PRESSURE MUST CONTINUE

At the same time the fiery New York Congressman sounded a note of sharp warning against "letting up on pressure on Congressmen and Senators." "May 24," he declared, "is an historic day in the life of the American people. We vote to enfranchise ten million Negro and white citizens in the poll-tax South. We must use the time until May 24 to send thousands of messages to members of Congress demanding that they reject all amendments to my bill and that they give it their vote. If we do not do this there is grave danger that the poll taxers will pile up my bill with inacceptable amendments or seek to substitute for it a weaker bill. The larger the vote for my bill on May 24 the more certain can we be that the Senate will not kill it. The people need to guarantee the result by getting every one they know to write their Congressman this week."

MAY 15 1943

South's Legislators Pin Hopes On Senate To Clinch Poll Taxes

MAY 26 1943

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Routed Southern congressmen looked hopefully to the Senate Wednesday to kill legislation outlawing the imposition of poll taxes in national elections.

Passed late Tuesday by the House on a roll-call vote of 265 to 110 over almost solid Southern opposition, the legislation is similar to previous bills approved by the House and talked to death in the Senate.

Opponents professed to see in the present Senate makeup an even better chance to halt the measure, since the veteran George Norris, of Nebraska, who was influential in bringing the bill to the floor in past years, no longer is a member.

Affecting primary as well as general elections, the legislation was described by its author, Rep. Marcantonio (Amn. Lab., N. Y.) as designed to protect the voting rights of 10,000,000 citizens, including 4,000,000 Negroes, in seven Southern states having poll taxes.

Debate, which bogged around the constitutionality of the procedure, was enlivened when a United States sailor nimbly leaped to a railing in the visitors' gallery Tuesday and started making an impromptu speech against poll taxes. Before being ejected by police, he asked "Why does a man have to pay tribute for the right to vote?" and added that "You don't have to pay to fight, why should you have to pay to vote?"

He identified himself as Evan Owen Jones, Jr., 21, of Los Angeles, a signalman, second class, and said he had been on active duty for two years, including participation in the Battle of Singapore.

Jones told reporters he came to the Capitol while on 48-hour leave to "see what makes this country click." He declared he was "disgusted" because members of Congress "are fighting the Civil War all over again."

MAY 26 1943

"They're just wasting their time anyhow," he said.

He was released after questioning.

TENNESSEE'S RED LIGHT

Pittsburgh Courier

Another red light on Tennessee's road to progress has developed in the case of Sheriff Birch E. Biggs of Polk County, and Chancellor T. L. Stewart of Winchester.

In an effort to remove Tennessee's 58-year-old poll tax barrier to the voting booth, the General Assembly recently passed a poll tax repeal statute which would have brought the Commonwealth abreast to enlightened States.

MAY 15 1943

Pittsburgh Pa.

Sheriff (Red Light) Biggs of Polk County promptly filed suit challenging the constitutionality of the law and contended that THE REMOVAL OF THE POLL TAX BARRIER WOULD THREATEN TENNESSEE WITH REPUBLICAN RULE!

MAY 15 1943

Obligingly Chancellor (Red Light) Stewart declared the law unconstitutional, so now the law must be wrangled through the Supreme Court of Tennessee and perhaps the Supreme Court of the United States where the Democratic viewpoint is seldom in disfavor.

Tennessee must be kept out of the clutches of the G. O. P.!

MAY 15 1943

Tennessee must be kept Democratic, even if it has to be kept undemocratic!

However, to the credit of Tennessee, let it be remembered that its Legislature actually voted for repeal of the poll tax, no matter what legal fictions may be found to thwart the will of the people.

MAY 15 1943

Most of the other Southern States have yet to pass such a law.

MAY 15

House to Vote on Poll Tax; Lifts Bills From Committee

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Goes on Record 268 to 110 for Action on Measures to End Levy—2-Hour Debate Set for Today After Strong Words

MAY 25 1943 MAY 25 1943

By The Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, May 24—Over almost solid Southern opposition and amid threats of a Senate filibuster and political reprisals against the New Deal, the House went on record today as favoring abolition of poll taxes as a prerequisite to voting in any election involving a Federal office.

By a roll-call vote of 268 to 110, it took jurisdiction from its Rules Committee over a group of bills aimed at outlawing the poll-tax requirements of seven Southern States and then ordered two hours of debate tomorrow on the legislation.

MAY 25 1943

Privately conceding the hopelessness of their case in the House, but confident that another Senate filibuster, such as has halted the legislation in past year, again would develop, leaders of the opposition injected into today's twenty minutes of debate the name of Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt as one of the sponsors of the bills.

The First Lady's name was coupled with those of John L. Lewis, head of the United Mine Workers, and Earl Browder, Communist leader, by Representative Colmer of Mississippi, who told the House it had received its "orders" from Lewis, Browder, the Association for the Advancement of the Colored People, and "from the First Lady of the Land."

MAY 25 1943

Mr. Colmer's statement was challenged by Representatives Baldwin of New York and Bender of Ohio, with the latter asserting that support for the legislation had been forthcoming from organizations throughout the nation and from 250 Protestant ministers. He further pleaded with his colleagues to "rise above political expediency and vote to uphold the Constitution and the integrity of this Congress and contribute to the national unity so necessary in winning this war."

Sounding the opposition keynote, Mr. Colmer said the power to determine the qualification of voters was lodged in the States under the United States Constitution.

Cox Sounds a Warning

Representative Cox of Georgia warned that "if the New Deal persists in heaping indignities upon the States that have kept the Democratic party alive in years gone by, then you can imagine what might happen in those States if the people should have the opportunity to vote for an American or for a Constitutional party."

Continuing, the Georgian termed the repeal movement "a sorry bid for the Negro vote," and then, turning to the Republican side of the House floor, he added:

"Remembering what the Negro cost you fololwing the Civil War, I am surprised that you want him back. He made it forever impossible that you should wield any sort of political influence in the Southern States as long as you hold to the name 'Republican party.'"

MAY 25 1943

A veiled prediction of a Senate filibuster came from Representative Hobbs of Alabama, who told the House that the legislation was an invitation to Congress to "forget its oath of office" and might prevent the Senate from "functioning for a long period of time."

Answering Mr. Hobbs, Representative Celler of New York said the Senate would be responsible for its own course, adding that "the crime is at their door, not ours," if a filibuster developed. Mr. Celler insisted that Congress had the power to outlaw poll taxes as a voting requirement in Federal elections, contending that if a State could impose such a tax, it could prescribe the color of a voter's tie.

The roll-call vote found 176 Republicans supporting the legislation and only ten opposing it, with eighty-eight Democratic voting for it and 100 in opposition. The larger part of the Democratic opposition came from delegations from the poll-tax State: Virginia, Arkansis, Georgia, South Carolina, Mississippi, Texas and Alabama.

Poll Tax Bill Again Held Up

PM
New York, N. Y.

By Senator's Absence Subcommittee Stymied

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—The Senate Judiciary Committee, hasterday, Subcommittee handling the bill to abolish the poll tax in Federal elections is stalemated by the absence of Sen. Abe Murdock (D., Utah), whose presence yesterday would have enabled it to report favorably on the bill to the Senate Judiciary Committee. Chairman Ernest W. McFarland of the Senate Judiciary Committee, full committee to call a special meeting next Friday to hear the Subcommittee's report. McFarland hopes in the meantime to reach Murdock and to get proxy if he is still absent from Senate. Murdock is understood to be driving East and his proxy could not be required in the regular meeting yes-

SEP 21 1943

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

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The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Dubinsky Blocks Anti-Poll Tax Bill, Marcantonio

JUL 26 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, July 25.—In a statement issued today, Congressman Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N. Y.) charged David Dubinsky, George S. Counts, chairman of the Dubinsky-controlled State Committee of the ALP, Layle Lane, Julius Hochman, general manager of Dubinsky's union, and other members of the Workers Defense League with being guilty of working "hand in glove with Martin Dies and John Rankin" in an effort to defeat H.R. 7, the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill and with being guilty of "high treason to the cause of labor and the Negro people."

"It is this motley crew that now seeks to win the support of labor and the Negro people in the coming American Labor Party primaries. They could not succeed in their attempt to split the forces fighting for my anti-poll tax bill. They will not succeed in their attempt to split the American Labor Party," he said.

The New York Congressman in his statement stated that the Workers Defense League, whose officers include George S. Counts, chairman of the Dubinsky-controlled State Committee of the ALP, Layle Lane and Julius Hochman, manager of Dubinsky's union—"all tools of David Dubinsky," last April 8 when there were 150 signatures on the Marcantonio discharge petition to force a vote on the anti-poll tax bill, wrote to every member of the congressional coalition asking them to withdraw support from the Marcantonio bill. The bill passed the House on April 21.

JUL 26 1943

The Marcantonio statement gave a direct quotation from a letter written by Morris Milgram, secretary of the league, in the name of Counts, Lane, Hochman and other officers and board members of the the poll taxers.

"I challenge Dubinsky or any of his stooges: Counts, Lane, Hochman and others to deny that this statement is true. On April 8, when 150 members of Congress had signed their names to my discharge petition to force a vote on my anti-poll tax bill, the Workers Defense League sent a letter to all members of the congressional coalition I had formed in support of my bill urging them to break their agreement and withdraw support from my bill.

"This outfit began its letter to Congressman Gavagan like this: 'I am writing to you at the request of our Board to inform you that we feel an immediate switch should be made from the discharge petition for the Marcantonio bill to your own or one of the others.' This letter was signed by one Morris Milgram, secretary of the League. This same Milgram wrote Congressman Magnuson on March 20: 'I have talked with important labor people, and they agree on the desirability of a shift, for the AFL and Railway Brotherhoods will not support the Marcantonio bill, and the CIO doesn't like it too well.' At the time this vicious lie was uttered by this Dubinsky stooge, hundreds of AFL unions, the Railway Brotherhoods and the CIO had gone on record in support of my bill. Yet the Counts, the Lanes, the Hochmans of the Dubinsky-controlled Workers Defense League were as busy as beavers trying to split support for anti-poll tax legislation by such foul slanders as this.

JUL 26 1943

"And for whom did Morris Milgram speak? He spoke for George S. Counts, treasurer of WDL and chairman of the Dubinsky-controlled State Committee of the ALP; Layle Lane, vice-president; Julius Hochman, board member and manager of Dubinsky's union—all of the Workers Defense League—all tools of David Dubinsky. This gang was working not for anti-poll tax legislation. It was and still is working hard in glove with Martin Dies and John Rankin.

"I charge this gang of splitters with high treason to the cause of league. The quotation taken from a letter written by Milgram to Congressman Gavagan said: "I am writing you at the request of our board to inform you that we feel an immediate switch should be made from the discharge petitional for the Marcantonio bill to your own or one of the others."

EXPOSES LIES

JUL 26 1943

In another letter of March 20, Milgram is quoted as writing to Congressman Warren Magnuson claiming that the Marcantonio bill would not win the support of the AFL, the Railway Brotherhoods and other labor groups. He claimed he got his information "from important labor leaders."

Says the Marcantonio statement: **"At the time this vicious lie was uttered by this Dubinsky stooge hundreds of AFL unions, the Railway Brotherhoods and the CIO had gone on record in support of my bill. Yet the Counts, the Hochmans, the Lanes of the Dubinsky-controlled Workers Defense League were as busy as beavers trying to split support for anti-poll tax legislation by such foul slanders as this."** The bill H.R.7 has the official endorsement of CIO, Brotherhoods and AFL.

The full text of the Marcantonio statement is as follows:

"It is time that labor and the Negro people knew the truth about David Dubinsky and his tools in the American Labor Party. It will not surprise either trade unionists or Negroes that Negro-baiting, labor-baiting poll taxers like John Rankin of Mississippi have opposed my efforts to win the ballot for ten million voteless Negro and white Americans. They should know, however, that John Rankin did not fight alone: he had the support of David Dubinsky, through his stooges in the Workers Defense League, George S. Counts, chairman of the Dubinsky-controlled State Committee of the ALP, Layle Lane, Julius Hochman, manager of Dubinsky's union, Morris Milgram and a host of others who disguised themselves as pro-Negro and pro-labor, but who were really a fifth column for labor and the Negro people. It is this motley crew that now seeks to win the support of labor and the Negro people in the coming American Labor Party primaries. They could not succeed in their attempt to split the forces fighting for my anti-poll tax bill. They will not succeed in their attempt to split the American Labor Party."

Federal Action Needed in Tenn. Poll Tax Edict

Bee
Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON, July 8 — The action of the Tennessee Supreme court in declaring unconstitutional the anti-poll tax bill passed by the legislature there in January reaffirmed the belief of the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax that "national action" will be necessary to wipe out this form of disfranchisement.

"Federal legislation is the only solution," declared Sylvia Beitscher, secretary for the committee, when informed of the action of the Tennessee court on Saturday. "The movement in Tennessee was the most vigorous in any of the poll-tax states," she said. "The obvious truth is that the political machine in that state is so well controlled that even the supreme court won't uphold the constitutionality of the law."

The court voted 3 to 2 against the law that sought to take the state out of the poll tax column. It will take six years to amend the constitution to achieve this end.

Meanwhile, the coalition anti-poll tax bill that got through the house is languishing in a sub-committee of the senate judiciary committee. Sen. Ernest W. McFarland (D) of Arizona is sub-committee chairman while Frederick Van Nuys (D) of Indiana heads the full committee.

The Committee to Abolish is hopeful that the sub-committee can be persuaded to report the measure before the recess, and is exerting all possible pressure. At the moment it is busy organizing a steering committee in the senate to handle the legislation just as was done with effectiveness in the lower chamber.

JUL 1943

Four members of an eight-man committee have already been committed. They are Sheridan Downey, Cal.; Thomas Green, Rhode Island; and James E. Murray, Montana, all Democrats; and Arthur Capper, Republican of Kansas.

"POLL TAX ISSUE SCAPEGOAT," SAYS FIRST LADY

Star of Zion
"Not Racial Question But Labor"
Charlotte, N. C.

By HAROLD A. L. CLEMENT

The Poll Tax Bill concerns more whites (6,000,000) than Negroes, (4,000,000) in the South stated Mrs Roosevelt before a closed meeting of members and friends of the Conference to End Discrimination in New Haven, last Tuesday, March 23, at the Y. M. C. A. The First Lady said that the infamed Poll Tax measure has been used "as a kind of an excuse by some groups, but it is not a racial question." More whites in the South are denied the privilege to vote than blacks asserted the chief executive's wife.

However, she pointed out in her speech before some 100 Negro and white people concerned with better race relations in the Elm City, "that the Poll Tax is tied up with the labor question because certain elements in the South desire to keep control of the vote." If these 10,000,000 unfortunates below the Mason and Dixon line were franchised our 'southern gentlemen' would suddenly see the tables turn.

"I hope that the Poll Tax issue will not created another fight as it did last year," said Mrs. Roosevelt, "such would be very unwise since the important thing is to be unified for war issues." A bitter fight and filibuster in Congress for the passage of the Anti-Poll Tax bill hinders the passage of urgent war bills, declared America's First Lady of affairs. The President's wife believes that the bill should be passed but the fight must be staged in the community by creating public opinion. "Congress, nor the State is not the place to raise a fight," she said. "And prejudice leads to more and more prejudice," continued Mrs. Roosevelt. Using the Poll Tax as an instrument of prejudice may pile up more prejudices on a group. "The government is the results of the way people spread opinions." added the speaker

Responsibility of Whites

The Conference to End Discrimination was told by the prominent lady that the "whites in the community are held responsible for making the race problem that much easier by providing proper housing and employment to minority groups." Education is an important adjustment in any situation stated Mrs. Rosevelt, "and if the economic status of the Negro is raised his children will have proper food and better clothing to obtain this education," She reminded her audience that the problem in the North is to open opportunities and raise the economic conditions of all minorities.

Mrs. Roosevelt's talk was concluded by pointing out four things in a democracy that become inherent rights of the individuals:

1. "Equal opportunity in education.
2. "Equal justice before the law.
3. "Equal opportunities at a job according to the ability of the individual to hold a job, and
4. "An opportunity to participate in the government as long as one remains a citizen of democracy"

The First Lady was introduced by Ruth Baker, chairman of the conference, who welcomed the distinguished guest to New Haven. Miss Baker gave a brief sketch of the objectives of the organization, which was formed last October, to end discrimination in employment, housing and social relations; and to urge the immediate passage of the Poll Tax bill.

Preceding Mrs. Roosevelt were remarks by the Rev. L. R. Tolbert, vice chairman of the movement; Allan Webb, Winchester Local, UERMWA, CIO; Edward McCrone, regional director, CIO; Leonard Reed, business agent, American Federation of Musicians; Nathan Sherman, editor of the "Union Times," of the New Haven Central Labor Council, and Rev. Harry J. Newton, acting president, Council of Churches of New Haven.

MAY 20 1943

Poll Tax

HOUSE PASSES ANTI-POLL TAX BILL

Boston, Mass. Guardian

WASHINGTON — By a vote of 265 to 110 the House last Tuesday adopted the anti-poll tax bill which outlaws the poll tax in the seven southern states where payment of the tax is a prerequisite for voting in national elections.

The seven poll tax states are Alabama, Arkansas, South Carolina, Georgia, Texas and Virginia.

The bill now goes to the Senate where similar measures have been defeated by filibusters. Last year an anti-poll tax bill passed the House by a vote of 252 to 84 but was killed in the senate by a southern group of filibustering senators.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

The vote in the House last Tuesday was highlighted by an impromptu speech of a sailor who had climbed to the railing of the visitors gallery.

"You don't have to pay to fight, why should you have to pay to vote" he shouted.

The sailor gave his name as Evan Owen Jones and that his home is Los Angeles, California. He said he had served in the navy two years and was in the battle of Singapore. He shouted his protest from the gallery just as Representative Whittington of Mississippi, a poll tax state, rose to oppose the legislation.

In the capital police room Jones said to the sergeant-at-arms: "I'm disgusted; those people in there are fighting the Civil War all over again. They should spend their time fighting this war."

Comment among Capital observers forsees stiff opposition to the anti poll tax bill in the Senate. Tax repeal organizations and other liberal groups are sending out urgent appeals for citizens to bring pressure on their senators so that any attempted filibuster can be crushed at the start. The bill may be detained in the Senate Judiciary Committee through the opposition of poll tax senators. It is assumed that the poll taxers will resort to every conceivable parliamentary trick to delay a vote on the measure. For this reason the "forces of democracy" are urged to concentrate pressure on their senators to get the bill moved out of the judiciary committee and to bring it to a vote.

Meanwhile, said the committee chairman, a delegation to Senator James Mead of New York is awaiting an appointment with the senator. New York's senior senator, Robert F. Wagner, has already given complete support to the poll tax repeal measure, HR 7, which is still in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The Senate Judiciary Committee, Mr. Medford revealed, is expected to complete its hearings on the bill by Oct. 26 and its report should be given to the Senate by Nov. 1.

Six of the senators on the Judiciary Committee are known to favor the bill, including its chairman, Van Nuys of Indiana, McCarran of Nevada, McFarland of Arizona, Langer of North Dakota, Ferguson of Michigan, Danaher of Connecticut, Murdock of Utah and Andrews of Florida.

The opposition to poll tax repeal on the Judiciary Committee includes Senators Connally of Texas, O'Mahoney of Wyoming, Chandler of Kentucky, Wheeler of Montana, Austin of Vermont, and Wiley of Wisconsin.

Committee members who have not yet committed themselves on H. R. 7 include Senators Hatch of Nevada, Revercomb of West Virginia, Wherry of Nebraska and Kilgore of West Virginia.

The New York Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax was formed early last summer and has conducted a vigorous campaign to involve organizations and individuals in the all-important poll tax repeal campaign, which has now become a real win-the-war issue.

Associated with the committee are 325 organizations. Its sponsoring list includes numerous prominent community leaders in New York State — churchmen, editors, labor leaders, writers, congressmen and others in public office. The New York Committee is cooperating in the national campaign which has headquarters in Washington, D. C., and is headed by Mr. Jennings Perry, editor of the Nashville Tennessean.

reporting out the anti-poll tax bill and thus pave the way to eliminate forever the undemocratic poll tax.

"It will be a shocking and dangerous thing if the Congress of the United States fails to cure this blight," Padway declared.

Padway opened the full-dress hearings before the committee on the constitutionality of HR 7, the anti-poll tax bill introduced by Rep. Vito Marcantonio which was passed by the House last spring. He will be followed by Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel, and Rep. William Dawson, Negro Congressman from Illinois, who will also urge prompt approval of the measure. The arguments against the measure will then be presented.

Originally scheduled to last only one day, the hearings will probably stretch out for the rest of the week, because Senators are anxious to be on the floor to hear debate on the Connally post - war resolution. This delay represents a tactical victory for the poll taxers.

MEAD PLEDGES SUPPORT

This morning a committee of trade union and religious leaders organized by the New York State Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax was assured by Senator James M. Mead of New York of his full and active support for the anti-poll tax bill.

Senator Mead told the group that the President and the administration "favor passage of this bill." He declared that he believes "only a short debate is necessary," and warned that any prolonged filibuster "will assist enemy propaganda."

The delegation was headed by Rev. Richard Morford, chairman of the New York State Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax.

DELEGATION FROM N. Y.

Members of the delegation were Rev. W. M. B. Scott, chairman of the Brooklyn Non-Partisan Conference on Labor Legislation, Clifford McEvoy, legislative representative of the New York CIO Industrial Union Council, C. L. Patrick, president of the Capital City Industrial Union Council, Alfred Larkey, secretary of the Greater Buffalo Industrial Union Council and Alexander Christison, of the United Electrical and Radio Workers in Schenectady.

"The AFL is in this fight to the finish," Padway told the Senate Judiciary Committee. "We object to every delay." He declared that those who emphasize the constitutional aspects of the issue as an excuse for opposing the bill do "a great disservice to our country."

"I suspect a considerable part of the cry of unconstitutionality, raised against the anti-poll tax bill, comes from people who don't want it passed because they are convinced it would be upheld by the Supreme Court," he said.

"It seems obvious that the only fair solution is a quick passage of the bill and a placing before the courts of ultimate responsibility for a determination of its constitutionality."

Senator Tom Connally of Texas, leader of the poll tax forces on the Judiciary Committee, asked Padway:

"You folks charge a poll tax to work, don't you?"

"No sir," Padway replied. "I admire the astuteness of the question, but they are not parallel."

Padway asked Connally if he wanted a full-length discussion as to whether union dues and initiation fees were the same thing as poll taxes.

Connally said he didn't, and soon afterwards walked out of the hearing.

Senator Joseph O'Mahoney of Wyoming then took over for the foes of the anti-poll tax bill.

"I agree that the poll tax ought to be abolished," O'Mahoney said. "But that isn't the question before us."

O'Mahoney argued that the measure was unconstitutional, and he asked Padway to join with him in supporting a constitutional amendment to eliminate the poll tax.

Padway refused to bite for the bait, and pointed to the obvious delay in passing a constitutional amendment.

service to the cause of democracy," warned Prof. E. Merrick Dodd, of Harvard Law school, Saturday at a meeting of the senate judiciary committee.

The senate group, headed by Sen. Frederick Van Nuys, (D. Ind.) upon receiving a favorable report from its subcommittee on abolition of the tax in federal elections, recently delayed hearings for a month and announced that the validity of the poll tax would then be debated on constitutional grounds.

Dodd indicated that should the supreme court rule against the anti-poll tax bill, its adoption by congress would be an endorsement of the "democratic principle that no American citizen ought to be disenfranchised because of property."

In a statement addressed to the judiciary committee, he said that "many constitutional lawyers believe that the supreme court would hold that the payment of a poll tax has nothing to do with a person's capacity to vote intelligently and that congress can so declare.

"Such a pronouncement by congress," said the college professor, "would be of great value as a demonstration of faith in the principles of democracy, even of a constitutional amendment is required to make the pronouncement legal."

Issue to Come Up Before State CIO

New York, N. Y.

It is hoped that the New York State CIO will assume leadership in the fight to abolish the poll tax, the Reverend Richard Morford, chairman of the New York State Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax said yesterday. Daily Worker

Mr. Morford said the state CIO convention in Buffalo Oct. 29 would hear a representative of the committee outline the status of the poll tax fight up to the present moment.

Senate Committee Hears AFL Urge End of Poll Tax

Daily Worker

New York, N. Y.

By Adam Lapin

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—Joseph A. Padway, general counsel of the AFL, today urged the Senate Judiciary Committee to act swiftly in

Delay In Passage Of Anti-Poll Tax Bill Is Deplored

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

Inaction Called Disservice To Democracy Cause

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—"Senators who take refuge in constitutional doubts" as an excuse for delaying or opposing passage of the anti-poll tax bill "are doing a dis-

CALLS POLL TAX NO RACE ISSUE

Knoxville, Te... [illegible]

October 26, 1943

AFL, CIO Spokesmen Back Bill To Outlaw Levy.

By United Press

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26. — Joseph A. Padway, general counsel of the American Federation of Labor, told the Senate Judiciary Committee here that the poll tax issue is not a race question because 60 per cent of the people disfranchised in eight Southern states are white.

He argued in support of constitutionality of a House-approved resolution to ban payment of poll taxes as a voting requisite in Federal elections.

Lee Pressman, general counsel for the Congress of Industrial Organizations, and Rep. William Dawson (D., Ill.), only Negro member of Congress, also appeared in support of the bill. Three attorneys opposing the legislation were to be heard later.

Disputes Contention

Appeals for early action by the senate, Padway disputed opponents' contention that payment of poll taxes is a valid qualification for voting and therefore can be

End of Poll Tax Demands Urged

(Special to the Daily Worker)

MIAMI, Oct. 11. — The Florida [illegible] cessed until to-State CIO is pressing Senator Chas. [illegible]ssman made aO. Andrews for favorable action on [illegible]e will continue H.R. 7, outlawing the poll tax. [illegible] the states, he [illegible]row and will be "Precisely because Florida has al[illegible]e sole right to ready repealed its poll tax, we presume you will not only support early passage of the anti-poll tax bill but will also take leadership on this issue on the Senate floor to insure

Fla. CIO Dem

[illegible]triction on the [illegible]h ought not to [illegible] the states, he [illegible]e sole right to

[illegible]riction of fil[illegible]bustering shall hinder the bill's success," Otis G. Nation, president, and other officials wrote the Senator.

Quizzed About Unions

Padway was questioned at length by Sen. Tom Connally (D., Tex.), leading opponent of the legisla-

Sen. Joseph C. O'Mahoney (D., Wyo.), said he firmly believed "the poll tax ought to be abolished" be-

[illegible]dues were not similar to a poll tax but this was not the time to do so. Daily Worker

[illegible]New York, N. Y.

[illegible]followed by Dawson.

[illegible]take such action.

The committee recessed [illegible]morrow after Pressman [illegible]Padway said he could give a brief statement. He will [illegible]long "dissertation" proving union on the stand tomorrow a [illegible]

[illegible]they?" Connally asked. [illegible]them before they can work, don't [illegible]right to vote, and a clot on the "They (workers) have to pay [illegible]ballot," he said. [illegible]fees and dues.

The poll tax is polluting govern[illegible]vant [illegible]tion. [illegible]cause it is a "restric[illegible]ment by permitting a minority of [illegible]Connally's inquiry whether [illegible]right to vote which ou[illegible]the citizens to control the election [illegible]he believed unions "invoke a poll [illegible]right to vote." But the [illegible]of public officials, he charged. [illegible]tax" when they assess initiation [illegible]contended, have the so[illegible]last year that the poll tax is not [illegible]fees and dues. [illegible]

[illegible]a qualification but is a tax on the [illegible]

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52e-1943
The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

250 Michigan Leaders Urge Poll Tax Killed

MAY 24 1943

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MAY 24 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

DETROIT, May 23.—Two hundred and fifty educators, union officials, ministers, civic and community leaders, in an open letter to Michigan Congressmen have petitioned for the passage of H. R. 7, the bill to abolish the poll-tax, it was announced today by Professor John F. Shepard, President of the Michigan Civil Rights Federation.

MAY 24 1943

The Marcantonio anti-Poll Tax Bill comes up for action on the floor of the House Monday or Tuesday, May 24-25. Though, a petition to get a vote on the bill received 218 signatures in record time, opponents of the measure are threatening Congressmen with the "boycott of their bills in committees" if they vote for the Marcantonio Bill. It is urgent that all Congressmen be present in the House Monday and Tuesday or at any other time when the poll tax comes up for a vote.

Among the churchmen who joined in the plea for the measure's passage are: Rabbi Morris Adler, Rev. T. T. Brumbaugh, Rabbi Leo M. Franklin, Rev. Charles Hill, Rev. H. B. Hudnut, Rev. Edgar DeWitt Jones, Rev. Joseph Mayne, Dr. Frederick H. Olert and Bishop Raymond J. Wade.

Educators who are signers of the letter include Professor Royal G. Hall of Albion College, Professor Paul E. Hubbel of Ypsilanti State Normal College, Dr. Paul T. Rankin, Professor Philip L. Schenk of the University of Michigan, and Dr. Jay J. Sherman and Professor Carl O. Smith of Wayne University.

Labor leaders and others include Judge Patrick H. O'Brien, Mrs. Douglas Brown, State Senator Ben Carpenter, State Representative Howard R. Carroll, Mr. John Dancy of the Detroit Urban League, State Senator Charles Diggs, State Senator Chester Howell, Judge Ira Jayne, Mr. W. P. Lovett of the Detroit Citizens League, Mr. Frank X. Martel, President of the Detroit County Federation of Labor, Dr. James J. McClendon, President of the Detroit chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, State Representative Thomas C. Morgan, Mrs. Fannie S. Pope, Councilman Henry Sweeney, President R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers, Dr. Lent D. Upson, Director of the Detroit Bureau of Governmental Research, and Mrs. Beulah Whitby, National President of Alpha Kappa Alpha Soror

MAY 24 1943

DEMAND POLL TAX REPEAL

The letter demands the repeal of the poll tax as "important win-the-war legislation," and brands the poll tax as "an injustice which creates disunity at home, weakens our bonds with our allies, and denies the democratic principles for which we are fighting."

It states that "There is no longer any doubt that the majority of the citizens of this great nation want the poll tax abolished. Now when the United Nations are fighting desperately to assure all people everywhere the privilege of democracy, it is imperative that this legislation to grant every American the right to suffrage guaranteed him by the Constitution of the United States be passed and passed immediately."

U. S. Representative Vito Marcantonio, author of H. R. 7, the bill to abolish the poll tax, will be in Detroit on Sunday, May 23, when he will speak before a meeting sponsored by the Civil Rights Federation at Masonic Temple at 7:30 P. M. The bill is scheduled for a vote in the U. S. House of Representatives on May 24.

Poll Tax
New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Anti-Poll Tax Bill Is Adopted By House 265 Votes to 110

MAY 26 1943

MAY 26 1943

By FREDERICK R. BARKLEY
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, May 25—By 265 to 110 the House adopted the Marcantonio Anti-Poll Tax Bill today. The measure would abolish poll taxes as a prerequisite for voting for Federal candidates in primaries and final elections in the seven Southern States which impose this levy. Three members of the House merely voted present.

The final vote came after an amendment by Representative Hobbs of Alabama, which would have eliminated application of the bill to primaries, was rejected by 131 to 75 on a division. A final motion by Mr. Hobbs to recommit the bill with instructions that the reference to primaries be stricken out was defeated on a voice vote.

In the course of the debate a sailor who identified himself as Evan O. Jones of Los Angeles, a signalman, second class, stood up in the gallery and shouted:

"Why should a man have to pay a tax to vote when he can fight without doing it?"

Ushered to the guard room, he said he had seen service in Singapore.

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"I came here to see how democracy works," he added, "and found them fighting the Civil War all over again."

Southerners Head Opposition

Support for the bill came predominantly from the Republicans, aided by some Northern Democrats, while the opposition centered in the poll tax States—Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas and Texas.

Although about 100 members were out of town at a ship launching and an Army camp inspection tour, both sides mustered more strength than in October, when a similar bill was adopted, 254 to 84.

The measure now goes to the Senate, where the House's similar bill was filibustered to death last Fall. Southern Senators are expected to make the same effort again, but it is believed that they will have a much harder task because proponents will have nearly nineteen months to seek action. Last year they had only two and a half months in which to seek a vote before the bill died with the expiration of Congress, thus making the filibusterers' job much easier.

The bill came up today as the result of the adoption by the House yesterday of a petition discharging the Rules Committee from further consideration of the measure. The petition required the signatures of 218, a majority of the membership, and it eliminated from the picture the Southern-dominated Rules Body, which had pigeonholed the measure as it did last year.

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Right to Vote Linked to War

Supporters of the bill concentrated their arguments today on the point that men who can be called to fight for their country without any option should not have to pay a tax for the right to vote for Members of Congress who decide whether and when they must go to war.

Opponents contended that the legislation was a violation of the Constitution, which, they said, gives to the States exclusively the right to determine the qualifications for voting.

The charge that elements supporting the repealer included Communists and other radical groups and labor factions which are now striking in war industries also was brought strongly into the debate.

Representative Starnes of Alabama said that "voting is a privilege and not a right and should be allowed only to those with intelligence to use the vote wisely."

"If all forty-eight States had a poll tax," he continued, "the quality of the legislators in this body would be raised to a higher level. And I might point out that in the South, where the poll taxe exists we don't have 8,000 men on strike today against the government."

When Mr. Starnes's attention was called on the floor to a strike at Birmingham in his own State only last week, he remarked that it was started by Northerners and that the strikers totaled only 3,000 and were now back at work.

Representative Hoffman, Republican of Michigan, chided Representative Bolton of Ohio, for "being hot to repeal the requirement that a man has to pay $2 a year to vote but absolutely cold to appeals to end requirements of labor unions that men must pay $12 a year for the right to work and eat."

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Representative Baldwin of New York, who led the debate for the Republicans, ridiculed the contention that the measure was inspired chiefly by radicals, Communists and labor unionists.

"John D. Rockefeller supports this bill," he said, "and is any one going to charge here that Mr. Rockefeller is a Communist? I support it and I come from a district which certainly cannot be called a radical one; a district where Republican and Democratic strength is about evenly divided and where the Negro vote is negligible.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Poll-Tax Congressmen From Kentucky

MAY 25 1943

The Kentucky delegation in the House is a sad disappointment in its action on the anti-poll tax bill. This state has no poll tax, its Congressmen have no vested interest in it and, having no vested interest, ought to be able to look at it objectively. Nobody can look at the poll tax objectively and pretend that it is anything except an affront to democracy. Yet seven of the nine Kentuckians in the House voted against taking the poll tax repealer from the committee which wanted to smother it Monday and six of the nine voted against the bill itself Tuesday. Representative O'Neal of Louisville voted against taking the bill from committee, but he did vote for its final passage. Representative Spence was the only Kentucky Democrat who went all-out in favor of the measure, voting both to rescue it from a hostile committee and then to pass it. He was joined by the lone Kentucky Republican, Mr. Robsion.

We suppose the Congressmen would reply that the Republicans are simply playing a political game with the anti-poll tax bill. That is clearly true. The Republicans, who had ample opportunity to pass an anti-poll tax bill and didn't when they were in control of Congress, are trying to recapture the Negro vote. Actually, the poll tax disfranchises more white than colored people, but because of their position in the South

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—Opponents of the anti-poll tax bill said Sen. Theodore Bilbo, (D., Miss.), today they were confident they could defeat any attempt to block the usual filibuster that to date has defeated every attempt to bring such measure to a vote on the Senate floor.

The Senate Judiciary Committee who led the successful filibuster thirds majority to limit debate in approved yesterday by a vote of 12 to 6. the Senate, he said many who

Birmingham, Alabama Post

FILIBUSTER SLATED ANTI-POLL TAX BILL

By United Press.

MAY 27 1943

Republicans are trying to recapture is in Louisville, and Mr. O'Neal seems to have seen the light Tuesday.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Sailor Heckles As House Passes Anti-Poll Tax Bill

MAY 26 1943

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MAY 26 1943

WASHINGTON, May 25.—(AP)—Heckled by a sailor who declared congress was still fighting the Civil War, the house voted today to let the citizens of seven southern states ballot in national elections without the payment of poll taxes.

The legislation, adopted 265 to 110, goes to the senate, where filibusters have killed similar measures in the past.

The 21-year-old sailor delivered an impromptu speech from the visitors' gallery, demanding:

"Why does a man have to pay tribute for the right to vote?"

The second class naval signalman later described himself as Evan Owen Jones Jr., of Los Angeles, and said he had served in the Navy two years, having been in the battle of Singapore. He climbed to the railing surrounding the gallery just as Representative Whittington, Democrat, Mississippi, rose to oppose the bill.

"You don't have to pay to fight, why should you have to pay to vote?" he shouted.

MAY 26 19

Taken to Police Room.

Taken to the capital police room, Jones said he came here on 48-hour leave "to see what makes this country click."

"And I'm disgusted," he told Kenneth Romney, sergeant-at-arms. "Those people in there (the house chamber) are fighting the Civil War all over again. They should spend their time fighting this war."

Jones acknowledged he "spoke out of turn" but observed the legislators were "just wasting their time anyhow."

But Jones told Dr. George W. Calver, capitol physician, he believes "we have the best government anywhere, and I've seen a lot of them," and said he and others are "fighting to keep it the best government in the world and believe congress should do its part."

Dr. Calver said the sailor had been released to return to his ship. The physician, a Naval officer himself, expressed the opinion Jones was "just letting off a little steam."

Debate on the bill followed the lines of past years, southern opponents contending congress has no authority to interfere with the rights of states to proscribe qualifications for their voters, and proponents insisting federal legislation is necessary to safeguard voting rights for thousands of southern Negroes.

As adopted the ban would apply to primaries as well as general elections. An amendment to limit it to general elections, offered by Representative Hobbs, Democrat, Alabama, was defeated on a standing vote of 85 to 75. An amendment proposed by Representative Hoffman, Republican, Michigan, to prohibit the prescription of voters' educational requirements, was shouted down by a voice vote.

Hoffman chided northern members for opposing requirements for the payment of a $2 fee to vote while, he said, they uphold the right of labor unions to charge their members "$12 a year for the right to work."

Representative Starnes, Democrat, Alabama, said John L. Lewis and Philip Murray, labor leaders, want the tax abolished so "they can rid the country" of representatives opposed to them.

Representative Marcantonio, American Labor, New York, author of the bill, told the house 10,000,000 persons now are prevented from exercising their right to vote through the operation of poll tax laws. Of that number, he said, 4,000,000 are Negroes.

PM
New York, N. Y.

House Takes Measure From Committee's Hands by Large Vote

MAY 25 1943

By NATHAN ROBERTSON
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, May 25.—The Marcantonio bill to outlaw the poll tax in Federal elections was headed for passage in the House today after winning two thumping victories on test votes yesterday.

Approval of the bill was assured when the House voted 268-110 to take the measure out of the hands of the Rules Committee, where it has been blocked by poll tax votes. The House quickly ratified this decision by a 265-105 vote, providing a rule for its consideration today.

The victories were won over the bitter opposition of the Southern poll tax Congressmen, aided by a handful of reactionary Republicans, who attempted to smear with a red paint brush the proposal for extending democracy to poor Southern citizens.

MAY 25 1943

Rankin Leads Smearers

Rep. John Rankin (D., Miss.) led in the attempt to picture the legislation as Communistic. As soon as Rep. Warren G. Magnuson (D., Wash.) made the motion to discharge the Rules Committee, Rankin called attention to the fact that Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP., N. Y.) was the author of the measure.

Other Southern Congressmen quickly joined the smear campaign. Rep. William P. Colmer (D., Miss.) said the votes for the bill were lined up on orders from John L. Lewis, Earl Browder, the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Rep. Joseph Clark Baldwin (R., N. Y.), one of the managers of the bill, urged the elimination of personalities from the debate. Rep. Eugene Cox (D., Ga.) chided the Republicans, said they were voting for the measure as "bait for the Negro vote." Rep. Sam Hobbs (D., Ala.), warning of a Senate filibuster against the bill, said it was a "clear invasion of State's rights." But Rep. Emanuel Celler (D., N. Y.) replied that if the Senate let a filibuster on the measure tie its hands "the crime is at their door, not ours."

MAY 25 1943

Source of Support

The House was virtually solid in its support of the bill, except for the Southerners and 10 Republicans. Three of the 10 Republicans who voted against the bill were from New York. They were Reps. Fred J. Douglas of Utica, John Taber of Auburn, and Daniel A. Reed of Dunkirk. The other seven were: Reps. Fred Bradley of Michigan, Francis Case of South Dakota, Frank Fellows of Maine, Noah M. Mason, Dies' Committee member from Illinois; Ross Rizley of Oklahoma, Richard M. Simpson of Pennsylvania, and Thomas D. Winter of Kansas.

MAY 25 1943

Rep. Clare Hoffman (R., Mich) also voted against the bill on the first vote, which was an unrecorded standing vote. But when the roll was called and he had to go on record, he switched over to vote for the bill.

Except for Douglas, Taber and Reed, the New York delegation voted solidly for the bill. But five Republicans and two Democrats were absent. They were: Reps. James A. O'Leary, (D.); Louis J. Capozzoli, (D.); Dean P. Taylor, (R.); Clarence E. Kilburn, (R.); Francis D. Gulkin, (R.); W. Sterling Cole, (R.), and Joseph J. O'Brien, (R.).

News
Birmingham, Ala.

The Poll Tax Again

MAY 26 1943

This paper long has advocated poll tax reform. Its views on the matter remain the same. But we have favored such action by the states concerned, not by the federal government. We consider state determination of the qualifications for voting generally sound.

We think both the constitution and common sense bespeak the right of Congress to make regulations respecting federal elections. But we do not regard federal intervention in the matter of the poll tax as likely to advance the cause of reform.

On the contrary, the campaign for federal action which has been resumed in Congress is certain to promote disunity in the country in this time of grave world crisis.

Whatever could be achieved by such action could not, in our opinion, offset the dangers of such disunity.

MAY 26 1943

Passage of a law by Congress banning the poll tax as a qualification for voting in federal elections would not clear the way for Negro suffrage, as has been promised or implied in some quarters.

On the other hand, it is equally true, in our opinion, that such action need not increase the apprehension of those who fear such suffrage. The fight has largely centered around broad misconceptions, some of them deliberately fomented.

MAY 26 1943

There is nothing to be gained by such legislation that equals in importance the urgency of maintaining our national unity and good will at the maximum.

The vote of the eight Alabama representatives on the question of discharging the rules committee from further consideration of the legislation is a good index to sentiment in this state. They voted against bringing the matter before the House again.

House passage of the measure will certainly run into inflexible opposition in the Senate again.

MAY 26 1943

Southerners, in great numbers, feel very deeply in this matter. They consider that a basic matter of state's rights is at stake. They have many doubts and misgivings respecting this effort, and even though they may not be fully justified, the fact remains that these feelings run very deep and are very intense.

The way to deal with such convictions and feelings, especially in this time when all our energies are needed in dealing with exterior enemies, is not by coercion or high pressure.

At the same time, it is only realistic for Southerners to confront the fact that this threat of federal legislation is not going to be disarm the extremists at Washington. finally removed until there is more evidence And yet there seems no sign of of additional progress toward poll tax reform remedial action at Montgomery.

MAY 26 1943

Anti-Poll Tax

Group to See Mead on Bill

Richard Morford, committee chairman, will interview Mead at his offices in Washington.

Prominent educators, writers, composers and clergymen are among signers of the committee's statement against the poll tax.

delegation from the New York State Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax to give leadership to the fight for passage of the anti-poll tax bill.

Mead will be asked to fight for cloture to prevent Senate filibustering and bring the Marcantonio bill

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

MAY 26 1943

Action by our own Legislature and by those of other affected states could do much to nition and incitement to those urging federal intervention.

There is no wisdom in becoming stubborn or vengeful or in going to the other extreme from those who are driving so hard and so recklessly for federal action.

United States Senator James M Mead will be asked this week by a

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

52e-1943

REPUBLICAN

Willkie Assails Disfranchisement Of Negro Voters

Defender Chicago, Ill

SYRACUSE, N. Y.—The disfranchisement of millions of southerners including Negroes and poor whites through the poll tax is responsible for the control over the federal government exercised by southern Democrats who stay in office by the vote of only ten per cent of the population, Wendell L. Willkie, 1940 Republican presidential nominee, charged here last week.

OCT 30 1943

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Willkie, who spoke at a Republican rally, declared that the Republican party has a potential unity which the Democrats have now hopelessly lost. The Democratic party, said Willkie, is made up of two factions: "One group consisting of the political oligarchies of the South and the corrupt political machines of the North," and the other consisting of "sincere Democrats together with independents and liberals."

OCT 30 1943

The latter group, however, is unorganized and is therefore losing out against the manipulation of the organized, Willkie said.

52e-1943
Columbia, S. C., State
June 27, 1943

383,686 Negroes Of Voting Age In This State

Washington, June 26—(AP)—The two Carolinas, with a combined total population of approximately 5,500,000, have 876,859 Negroes of voting age, a bureau of the census report showed today.

The report, from 1940 census figures, showed that in South Carolina's 1,899,804 population, there were 383,686 Negroes of voting age, and that among North Carolina's 3,571,623 people were 493,173 Negroes 21 years of age or older.

South Carolina's Democratic primaries usually draw between 200,000 and 250,000 voters during gubernatorial election years, while the response to general elections hit a peak of 115,437 in 1936.

526-1943

Tennessean Raps Schemers' Who Put Forth Fake Issue

Nashville, Tenn.

Whisperers And Pamphleteers Lambasted For Stirring Up Fear Over Size Of Negro Citizens; Judge Vote Hickman "Key Man" In Struggle

Repeal of Davidson County's one dollar part of the poll tax of two dollars that are charged to vote in Tennessee will be the livest issue coming before the October meeting of the Davidson County Court, and it is believed repeal will hinge on the stand that is to be taken by Judge Litton Hickman. If Judge comes out for repeal, it is virtually certain the tax will be taken off. If he does not take a stand for repeal it is likely the issue will be settled when the court takes up the matter in December. It is when they put the tax, previously repealed back in operation and in a manner that even some of the squires who voted to restore it say, "caught them napping."

The remark of a local politician to the effect that 97 per cent of the people of his ward favored a poll tax as a prerequisite for voting stirred the Nashville Tennessean local reform daily newspaper, to action. Representatives of the newspaper took polls in various districts, wards and precincts and found that when the tax was gone forever. But the Supreme Court of the State in a famous (or notorious) 3-2 decision, declared repeal of the poll tax by the Tennessee legislature was null and void. The court's decision did not affect Davidson's right to do away with the tax it puts on its citizens. But the political faction which believes in a "small vote" and whose members are servants of special interests, saw a chance to make things for their faction when next year's county election is to be held and also to help the poll tax faction in voting in state politics with which they are allied.

The expose of the falsity of the politician that 97 people here favor a poll tax as a prerequisite to voting in the Tennessean of Nashville, Tenn. The job has been done. The newspaper has gotten the pledges of the several members that they will vote to take the dollar tax off the backs of the people. Among the court members most militant in the opposing the poll tax are Messrs Harry Nelson and Felix Z. Wil ago son, both of whom are popular with the mass of the people here generally.

It is believed that the Hon court, appointment and very much to the activities in these parts, is the people who will lead the forces favoring retention of the dollar poll tax. He is likely to run for register next year and is almost certain to have strong opposition from some citizens allied with the sec- liberal element in local politics. Mr. Jones is likely to be defeated if a large vote is cast in Nashville although his faction controls the city and county.

The battle in the county court will very largely be a poll tax repeal or retention of the there was feud between city and county leaders. It will be an effort on the part of the county group to get an advantage that they can exploit a legislative delegation is to be chosen next year. Another group of legislators, such as the which represented the county in 1943 session, would be expected to put through a series of "ripper bills" would serve further to strengthen the faction that seeks to keep Negroes from large numbers. It appears that various attempts to herd the Negro vote as a block and in one direction have failed. The fact does credit to the Negro citizens. The independent vote is the balance wheel of our political life.

"The behind-the-hand whisperers, the anonymous pamphleteers who twist truth to sow alarm are no credit to anybody. Nor are the gullible who accept without question this poison pap which undermines the democratic resolution of the people."

Tennessean

Nashville, Tenn.

whispering campaign has been engaged in by the political interests that thrive on keeping a small, controlled element as the voting strength of the county. The Tennessean "went down" Monday in a blistering editorial effort to head off the Negro issue" and saddle a poll tax distranchisement upon the people of the county. editorial in part said the following:

"Among the minority supporting the poll tax or are unconcerned by it we find two views, one fearful, one cynical. There are people who are afraid of the Negroes; and the people who cannot see that a free vote is a means to "better government."

"In a long and considerate discussion of the right to vote this newspaper purposely has left the color question to one side, not because it is not important in the issue but because it assumes undue importance—because it stirs up and is used to stir up the smoke of prejudice to obscure sense and fact alike.

"The Negro citizen has an equal right to vote if for no other reason than that he is taxed equally, and that his existence to the revolt of Americans against taxation without representation.

"The poll tax is not a class tax, levied only against Negroes. Its disfranchisement is horizontal throughout the whole population. For every Negro kept from the polls by the tax, six white citizens are kept from the polls.

"The behind-the-hand whisperers, the anonymous pamphleteers who twist truth to sow alarm are no credit to anybody. Nor are the gullible who accept without question this poison pap which undermines the democratic resolution of the people . . ."

Survey Reveals Minority Group Favors Tennessee Poll Tax

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Sept. 23—The Nashville Tennessean in its issue of September 13 chastised those citizens who, a Tennessean survey had revealed, favored retaining the poll tax because it helped to keep colored people from voting.

Those people expressing the view were in the small minority, to be sure, but they were among the minority group which favored keeping the poll tax as well.

Although the state supreme court ruled the last General Assembly's repeal of the poll tax was unconstitutional, counties still have the right to repeal their share of the tax.

It was to sound out the opinion of Davidson county residents that The Tennessean conducted the survey. The editorial follows in part:

AFRAID OF NEGROES

"Among the minority supporting the poll tax or unconcerned by it we find two views, one fearful, one cynical. There are the people who are afraid of the Negroes; and the people who cannot see that a free vote is a means to "better government." . . .

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"The Negro citizen has an equal right to vote if for no other reason than that he is taxed equally, and that his existence to the revolt of Americans against taxation without representation.

SIX WHITES

"The poll tax is not a class tax, levied only against Negroes. Its disfranchisement is horizontal throughout the whole population. For every Negro kept from the polls by the tax, six white citizens are kept from the polls.

"The behind-the-hand whisperers, the anonymous pamphleteers who twist truth to sow alarm are no credit to anybody. Nor are the gullible who accept without question this poison pap which undermines the democratic resolution of the people . . ."

Opponents of repeal had declared such action was unconstitutional but the Governor advised the Legislature that it should do its part by passing the proposed bill and let the courts determine the legal questions. The Supreme Court pointed out that a constitutional amendment was the remedy.

POLL TAX REPEAL VOIDED

Philadelphia, Pa.

Tennessee Supreme Court Holds Measure Unconstitutional

Christian Recorder

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Tennessans must continue to pay a poll tax as a prerequisite to voting, the State Supreme Court ruled today. In a 3 to 2 opinion the Court held unconstitutional acts to the 1943 Legislature repealing laws a half century old.

Repeal bills were considered by the last three biennial General Assemblies and approved each time by Governor Prentice Cooper. Opposed by powerful [illegible] close to the State administration.

Ask Rehearing Of Poll Tax Ban

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — A petition for the State Supreme Court to rehear the suit which successfully attacked the 1943 legislative act repealing Tennessee's poll tax statute were served last week on counsel for the plaintiffs in the original contest.

Attorneys Charles C. Guinn of Benton and Carlle E. Littleton of Chattanooga, acting for Henry A. Cross, Republican member of the Polk County Election Commission, prepared the petition and an accompanying brief which were served on Judge R. A. Davis of Athens, chief solicitor for the plaintiffs.

The Supreme Court was asked in the petition to rehear the case on which the court recently upheld a lower court's ruling the poll tax repeal and the accompanying act setting up a permanent registration system were unconstitutional and therefore void.

State Poll Tax Faces Test on New Grounds

Post
OCT 20 1943
Washington, D. C

By the Associated Press

Richmond, Va., Oct. 19.—Secretary of the Commonwealth Ralph E. Wilkins said today he would be "more than likely" to ask Attorney General A. P. Staples for an opinion as to what to do with the declaration of Henry L. Saunders of Ashland as a candidate for Congress at large in the election to be held in November, 1944.

Wilkins said the declaration had only reached him this morning and that he had not had an opportunity to determine what course he would take.

The declaration evidently was an attack on the poll-tax laws of the State on grounds not heretofore used. If the contention of Saunders should be sustained—that Virginia's congressional allotment is not legal—it would apparently have the effect of throwing the 1944 congressional elections into a State-wide campaign.

Saunders said his notice of candidacy had the backing of CIO and AFL labor groups an dthe Southern and Virginia Electoral Reform Leagues.

The points made were that Virginia's poll tax has had the effect of abridging the right to vote of more than 50 per cent of Virginia's citizens, contrary to Section 4 of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution, and that Virginia is not entitled to nine Representatives.

Saunders is a native of Ashland and has long been a leader in organized labor. He is a motion-picture operator in a Richmond theater. Saunders' notice was complete with 250 signatures and the necessary affidavits.

Rights And Duties In A Democracy

By LUTHER P. JACKSON

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

The Shame Of The Race

THE CAUSES for the shortcomings of a people may be found in two sources—the oppression from another group of people, and the apathy among those people themselves. Thus the lack of employment, the lack of schooling, the lack of participation in the affairs of government, and the lack of many other opportunities among Negroes can be easily blamed on the white man, or they may be blamed on the Negroes themselves.



DR. JACKSON

I must confess that much of the time I don't know whether to say the colored man is down because the white man is holding him down or because he is holding himself down. I do know that in spite of oppression all races or groups of citizens in democratic America have been able to improve their condition and rise to higher planes of living. And whenever the Negro race, as one of the races, does not embrace the opportunities which open to them, such a failure we must label "the shame of the race."

OUTPAID 15 TO ONE

In the field of civil rights the shame of the race number "one" is the failure to pay the poll tax. Many white citizens pay the tax while most Negroes do not. This year in Richmond, for example, 45,000 whites, in round numbers, paid the levy as against 2,000 Negroes. This year in Cumberland County, 1,000 whites paid as against 68 Negroes. Whether the races are equally or unequally balanced in number in a given area the story is the same everywhere.

In proportion to population the whites out-pay the Negroes ten and fifteen to one. In looking over the poll tax list of Cumberland it is no wonder, then, that the court clerk said to me, "What is the matter with your people: why don't they pay the poll tax?" To examine the poll tax list (or voters' list) of any county or city in Virginia and to see the names of three hundred whites on a page as against about fifteen Negroes, the race-minded individual is compelled to treat non-poll tax paying as one of the great weaknesses of his people.

The shame of the race number "two" is the failure of the few who pay the poll tax to register and vote after paying. In checking over together the 294 Negroes of Lunenburg County who have paid all poll taxes with a Lunenburg friend of mine I find that less than thirty have registered and therefore less than thirty vote. "Mr. so-and-So," he said "is a big property holder who always pays his poll tax but he has never registered and he never votes."

10,000 VS. 330,000 VOTES

On an election day in Virginia the complaint frequently made by the candidates and officials is, "Where are the Negroes, why don't they come to vote?" Speaking along this same line a certain Virginia white man wrote to me saying: 'It does seem impossible that the members of your race will continue to ignore the privilege of voting in Virginia now that their rights to do so are not even being questioned.

Criticising further he said: "We are fussing with the whites because their voting record is shamefully low. It is inconceivable that Negroes with so much more to gain at the ballot box than the whites would be content with 10,000 votes when they might have 330,000 votes."

The shame of the race is the shame of the home, the school, and the church. Never having been instructed by parents, teachers or ministers the vote the present generation has grown up with casting a ballot a lost art. Since the leaders are in the same condition as the masses on this subject they can not say any thing about it.

Saying nothing about it must have been the predicament of one Virginia college last year; for eighty-five per cent of its faculty members had not paid the poll tax, had not registered, and in Virginia had never voted. Voteless professors and voteless teachers make pupils who finish school only to swell the number of non-voters. Thus they pass into the world unable to defend themselves in a society which which though democratic is also ruthless. They and their parents, their teachers, and their ministers virtually say "voting we will leave to white America; we will take what they give us."

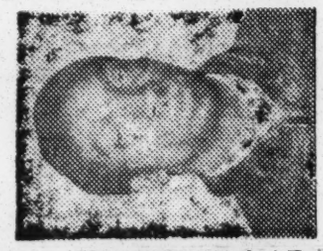
ORGANIZATIONS BETRAYED

Not to pay the poll tax, or not to register and vote after paying it, is not to support the Southern Electoral Reform League, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and other welfare organizations now working to give the ballot to Negroes and all underprivileged Americans. Not to vote after paying the poll tax is indeed an act of betraying these bodies.

They are forever telling a stubborn Congress that Negroes and poor whites do not vote because they are held back by the poll tax, but what must they say when they learn that the greater portion of Negroes in Virginia do not register and do not vote even after paying this fee to the ballot box.

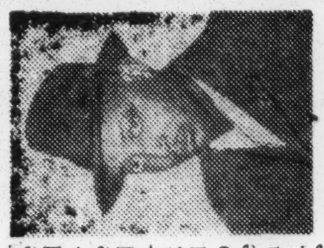
Poverty is the usual plea made for not paying the poll tax, but in 1943 nobody is unemployed and everybody has money to pay the poll tax and many other taxes. To pay the tax, to register, and to vote is to catch up with the democracy now waiting for many Negroes. To do so is also to remove the shame of the race.





The Inquiring Reporter

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.



By J. ANDREW BOWLER

Chapel street: "I am here from New York but my people live here and they have always paid the poll tax and voted. I suppose it just comes natural for me to want to vote since I live in a democracy. You know the

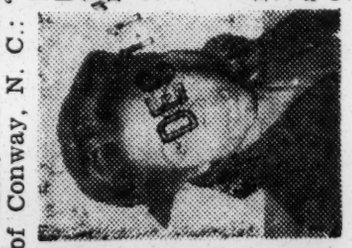
THE QUESTION

Have You Paid Your Poll Tax and Qualified to Vote? If so, what prompted you to take this action?

Editor's Note: The inquiring reporter chose for his subjects people standing in front of the local tax collector's office because of the widespread attention which has been manifested over the unprecedented number of colored taxpayers.

THE ANSWERS

MRS. DOLLY JONES, 1801 Greenleaf drive, Oakleaf Park: "Citizens are the only people who are counted as the ones who vote: there we have the rest are just ignored."



Negroes learn the importance of the ballot and concerted effort. Five thousand qualified voters would make a lot of difference in the attitude of other people toward us and many of our desires for a better Norfolk."

was formerly of New York City and learned that Negroes fare much better when they vote and stick together. I feel that we can do the same things here when we have so few privileges on. I am going to cause I think it's the only way of ing, streets, sanitation, Negro fire-saying just whom you want to run men and police. It's just one of those debts that all citizens owe to a democratic society."

pay up and stay paid I am becoming a voted. I can see the urgent time. I have and only need for Nogroes to qualify to vote if it means paying tax. By paying it and voting we put men in office who are to pay the back taxes. Once we have a paid up from now strong voting population we will to vote too be- be heard on such matters as hous-



JOHN WOOD, 1511 Outten street: "I have just realized that I was not a full-fledged citizen until

I qualified as voter and

PERCY WALTON, 2305 Reser-

LORENZA BOWDEN, 2539

Rights And Duties In A Democracy

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

By LUTHER P. JACKSON

Motives For Paying The Poll Tax

THE voting boom in Portsmouth and Newport News is a reminder that similar advances can be made throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia and indeed throughout the poll tax states of the South. In these cities Negroes are paying the poll tax by the hundreds. Here and every where they should be paying it by the thousands. They should be marching to their county and city treasurers' offices by the thousands, because paying the poll tax is a step toward giving all citizens a voice in the government under which we live. In Virginia and seven other Southern states it is the admission fee to the ballot box.



DR. JACKSON

THE THRILL OF PAYING THE POLL TAX

Negroes and all the people in Virginia should get a thrill from paying the poll tax because in so doing they beat the system created by the fathers of the Virginia constitution of 1902. They will be doing what they were supposed not to do. The beliefs of the fathers were that the masses would never seek to vote if they had a poll tax of one dollar and a half to pay. If they were required to pay it for three years preceding the year of election; if they had to pay the tax six months in advance of this election; and finally, if they were required to keep the receipts showing that they had paid the levy.

It was in this manner that the Virginia statemen reasoned forty years ago and it was thus that the makers of all the constitutions in the Southern poll tax states reasoned with some variation about the same time. So they reasoned, but human beings by nature enjoy doing what they are supposed not to do.

HOW TO ABOLISH POLL TAX

All the people should pay the poll tax because in paying they lay a foundation for abolishing the poll tax. Here again they will be doing what they are supposed not to do. Southern senators in Congress now proclaim that the bill to abolish the poll tax in federal elections represents an invasion of states rights. But they would likewise fight a similar bill in their state governments just as vigorously as they are fighting it in Congress. The friends of the poll tax are the office holders who profit by its existence.

Despite the views of these office holders, the measure will no longer exist if the number who pay the tax increase five-fold and if they demand that this provision in the state constitutions be stricken from the organic law of their states. To pay the poll tax within the state, and to pay it in sufficient numbers is the surest way, then, of getting rid of it root and branch.

The poll tax is a most inviting tax to pay because the income from it is put to more more than one use. The poll tax is a double duty tax. Poll tax dollars go to support the schools of the state; they also give the citizen the ballot. Every loyal American wants better schools and every true American wants to vote.

TO SECURE REDRESS FROM WRONGS

To draw the line between the voters and non-voters in a community is a most unpleasant situation for the non-voters and the non-poll tax payers. To remove this stigma they must pay the tax and join the ranks of the voters.

Finally, the poll tax must be paid and voting must be done in order to secure redress for the wrongs inflicted upon the people. Ordinarily the place to remedy a grievance is a court of law, but some grievances will not be entertained by courts, and if entertained by them their decision will not always be enforced. A law or a statute from a legislature body, or an order from the executive branch, is something just as effective as a law or a decision handed down by a court.

In the light of these facts every citizen must pay the poll tax, must register for voting, and then he must proceed to the polls on election day to put into office the men who will correct the wrong which has been inflicted upon him.

AN OBNOXIOUS TAX

The poll tax is an obnoxious tax, but if all of my arguments are sound, every non-poll tax payer in Virginia, between the months December, 1943, and May, 1944 will rise up in his wrath and pay it. He has not one motive for paying, but four motives for paying.

Rights And Duties In A Democracy

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

By LUTHER P. JACKSON

The Voting Boom In Portsmouth, Virginia

DRIVES to increase the voting strength of Negroes are now in progress in a number of cities of Virginia. These drives are very necessary since only seven per cent of the Negroes of voting age in the cities as a whole have met the poll tax requirement for voting. Matched against this tiny group of seven per cent who wish to improve the political status of Negroes is the great mass of ninety-three per cent who apparently have given this matter no concern.



DR. JACKSON

Though the poll tax standing is very low in all urban Virginia, certain urban centers are striving hard to redeem themselves, and some are coming out of the depths faster than others. One of the cities which is progressing and struggling vigorously to get on a higher plane is Portsmouth.

According to the federal census of 1940 there are twelve thousand Negroes of voting age in this city. Of this number only 685 satisfied the poll tax requirement for voting in 1942, while 756 met this requirement for voting in 1943. Thus, in this city of twelve thousand potential voters, less than one thousand have been able to cast a ballot in recent years.

GREAT CHANGES PREDICTED

But I predict great changes for the future. My guess is that for the city election in the spring the hard working leaders of this town will present the public with one thousand qualified voters, while for the presidential election in the fall they will have one thousand and five hundred ready for the polls. Anything of a constructive nature can be undertaken in Portsmouth, because this old town of the Revolutionary war hero, Billy Flora, is now flowing with money. This unusual condition makes poll tax collecting very easy.

In this drive for qualified voters Portsmouth has the advantage of the leadership resting in the hands of a minister. For despite the growth and advancement of other professions within the race, the minister is still our most influential leader. The Rev. Harvey N. Johnson is the coordinator and director of the drive there. Supporting him vigorously is the Young Men's Civic Organization with its Central Civic Committee.

A very ardent supporter of the drive is Mrs. Cattie Daughtry Riddick of 103 Key road. So strongly does she believe in Negroes qualifying to vote that she recently made a wise expenditure of money for this purpose.

FINDS IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE

Portsmouth is bound to advance because the Central Civic Committee is advertising. Like all business concerns, they know it pays to advertise. Giving notice to the Negroes of Portsmouth in a recent "Ad" in the Journal and Guide a few weeks ago the Central Civic Committee and Mrs. Riddick boldly proclaimed: "We fight for Freedom, now let's vote for it." They added: "The most effective weapon on the home front (is) the ballot." Then they asked, "Are you using it?" . . . .

For this business-like manner in proceeding with their task the State of Virginia bows in humble thanks to Mrs. Riddick, the Young Men's Civic Organization, and all other workers of Portsmouth. The Virginia Voters League of Petersburg says to the other cities of Virginia and the South "Go thou and do likewise."

52e-1943

VIRGINIA

Rights And Duties In A Democracy

By LUTHER P. JACKSON

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

MINISTERS OF THE GOSPEL AND THE VOTING MOVEMENT

FOR SOME time the Virginia Voters' League, county and city voters' leagues, branches of the NAACP, and various fraternal organizations have been conducting campaigns to get Negroes qualified to vote. In all of these campaigns every worker is confronted with the following question: "Do you have the ministers behind you in this effort?" I have been asked this question a hundred times.



DR. JACKSON

So often is this inquiry made that one is compelled to conclude that in order to make the Negro ballot conscious the ministers of the gospel must support the movement. They may need a little begging. If so the workers in the voting cause are willing to get on their knees to these clergymen.

Fortunately there are among the ministers some individuals who will need no persuasion. The Rev. Harvey N. Johnson of Portsmouth, Va., will need no persuasion; the Rev. J. W. Davis of Amherst County will need none; nor will the Rev. J. A. Carter of Prince Edward and Appomattox Counties have to be told to say a word to boost this drive.

Men of similar grade exist here and there over the State of Virginia and throughout the South but on the whole the preachers, as shepherds, have no appreciation for any movement which will make their flock full-fledged citizens of this world.

Like the priesthood of the Middle Ages they are much more concerned about preparing their members for a final resting place in the world to come.

THEIR METHODS

Some ministers preach by example, others by precept. On nearly every poll tax list in Virginia one can find the name of a Reverend So-and-So who has paid this fee to the ballot box.

This same man has therefore registered, and he goes to the polls to deposit his ballot on election day. Such a person may say nothing in his pulpit or elsewhere about the importance of voting, but he has at least set the right example.

With such a man we have no quarrel. Other ministers, more deeply concerned about the general welfare of Negroes, go much further. They not only pay the poll tax, register, and vote themselves; they also try to persuade others. This type of man we laud to the skies.

FEW SUCH PREACHERS

But ministers of either of these types are few in number. Ninety per cent go the other way. They have not paid the poll tax and they never vote. They are unconnected with any league of voters and they are unconnected with any branch of the NAACP

Indeed they are unaffiliated with any movement representing organized protest for the injustices under which the masses suffer. Here again the injustices of this world are matters of little consequence; preparation for the next world is the thing which counts.

Some citizens will not line up with the voting movement because they are public servants paid from the public treasury. To persuade Negroes to pay the poll tax and register, they say, will mean the loss of their jobs.

HIS CASE DIFFERS

This situation is not the case with the preacher. In all matters pertaining to face issues his position is the most independent which Negroes hold. His salary comes from his members; not from the public treasury.

His church likewise is subject to no inspection by public authorities; he has to answer to no one except his own congregation or to the ecclesiastical organization to which he belongs.

Some day church members may think differently from their present indifferent ministers. Some day a board of deacons in a Baptist church or a board of stewards in a Methodist Church may call their pastor aside and embarrass him with this question: "Brother pastor, are you qualified to vote?"

When that day comes all of the ninety per cent who are now unable to help the race along political lines will of course qualify in a hurry.

VOTING IS PATRIOTIC LIVING

The movement to vote is a patriotic living among men. It is an effort to speed the coming of democracy, and to express genuine Christianity.

Loaded thus so heavily with the finest ideals of American life the many voteless and disinterested ministers must eventually come over on the voting side.

Here they will find a still more abundant life, a life which will make them instruments for still greater good.

GIVE WAR STAMPS FOR CHRISTMAS

"A Stamp in Every Stocking"—that's what the Treasury Department wants for Christmas. To encourage the giving of war stamps, many ideas for utilizing them in gifts and decorations have been suggested.

The stamps may also be used as decoration on wreaths, fastened to candles, and on Christmas cards.

Rights And Duties In A Democracy

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

By LUTHER P. JACKSON

Struggling In Princess Anne County

LITTLE concern about the outcome of elections and the holding of office is a leading characteristic of the people of the Southern states and to some degree of the people of the nation. Poll tax paying, registering, and voting concern only a few. This condition, which is common to all the people, finds its worst expression among Negroes. Only eight per cent of this group in Virginia have paid the required poll taxes, less than eight per cent have registered, and still less ever vote. The number who do vote boils down to about two per cent.



DR. JACKSON

Going to the polls on election day to cast a ballot is an experience which ninety-five per cent of the Negro adults have never had—never have in Virginia, anywhere in the South. Among those places in the South where interest in voting has been at its lowest ebb is Princess Anne County, Virginia.

From a voting population of more than four thousand persons, less than ten voted in the presidential election of 1940. Whether Roosevelt or whether Willkie got elected was a matter of no concern to the Negroes of this county in the region by the sea. For the last 30 years they have voted in elections of no kind —national, state, nor local.

CELLAR CHAMPIONS OF STATE

Among the one hundred counties in Virginia there are five who in poll tax paying must be called the cellar champions of this state. Lying at the bottom in 1942 were Cumberland, Prince George, Northampton, Princess Anne, and Accomac. Cumberland held ninety-sixth place; Prince George, ninety-seventh; Northampton, ninety-eighth; Princess Anne, ninety-ninth: and Accomac one hundredth. These last two counties hovered around one per cent with Princess Anne escaping last place by only a narrow margin.

In a moment of despair during the Crimean War of 1854, one Italian commander said to his fellow Italian soldiers: "Cheer up boys, for out of this mud we make Italy." In the same spirit certain Negro Princess Anne leaders are now saying to their Negro fellow citizens: "Cheer up boys, for out of this ninety-ninth place we make Princess Anne." While only sixty-eight persons have paid the poll tax or made the first step in meeting voting requirements for 1943, the leaders in this county have decided to make these sixty-eight poll tax payers, sixty-eight registered voters.

And they are not stopping at this point. Dividing up the county into sections and meeting regularly by sections because of the gasoline shortage, this forward looking group are driving to raise their number of qualified for 1944 by the hundreds. Thus they will be ready to do in 1944 what they have not done since 1904.

"I HAVE NO COLORED BLANKS"

The low standing of Princess Anne calls for some explanation. One difficulty has been the presence of one registrar (not all the registrars) who has attempted to block the colored citizens from voting. In applying to register, these people of color have been greeted with the bold assertion: "I have no female blanks with which to register you females," or worse still, "I have no colored blanks with which to register you colored folks."

Because of this flagrant violation of the law of Virginia and the law of the land, three ballot conscious Negroes of Princess Anne recently found no difficulty in changing this practice of their prejudiced registrar. Bringing action against him in the circuit court of Princess Anne the judge quickly ordered the registrar to register these citizens and all others similarly affected.

The speed with which conditions were rectified in Princess Anne may likewise be rectified anywhere in Virginia. The ballot box and the courts are open to all citizens in this commonwealth and other states of the South but the number who resort to them is but a very few. Retaining the services of a lawyer or striving to meet voting requirements are measures which have never dawned upon them.

Such action has dawned upon the Negroes of Princess Anne, for here they are struggling to lift their county from ninety-ninth place to first place among the counties of Virginia. Norfolk County, neighbor of Princess Anne, with only two per cent qualified, may well follow suit.

Princess Anne Citizens Win Right To Register For Voting

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

NORFOLK — A formal court decree, the Seaboard section of Princess Anne County to register all qualified citizens of the county, who had been denied the right so desire, was entered in the Princess Anne County Circuit Court on Wednesday of last week.

The decree was ordered by Judge B. D. White after Andrew Shipp, registrar of the county, had been advised by Commonwealth's Attorney Paul W. Ackiss to register Isaac Gould, George E. Wilson, and Philmore Reed, substantial citizens of the county, who had been denied the right

to register on July 8.

The action put an end to a suit filed by the trio against Mr. Shipp which was scheduled to have been heard by Judge White on Wednesday.

REGISTERED ON WEDNESDAY

The three plaintiffs in the case were scheduled to appear before the registrar sometime after six o'clock Wednesday to be registered, together with other colored citizens of the county. The suit was sponsored by the Civic Club of Princess Anne County, which was organized in March of this year.

D. T. Nelson is president of the group. Other officers are: C. I. Siler, vice president; E. V. Parker, secretary; C. E. Brown, treasurer; N. H. Davis, business manager.

The original petition, filed through Attorneys L. A. Howell and Victor J. Ashe, set forth that the petitioners had resided in Princess Anne County for more than ten years, that they were property owners and taxpayers; that they had paid the required poll tax for a period of more than three years "next before the filing of this petition for an appeal."

"NO COLORED REGISTRATION BOOKS"

The refusal to register the trio was alleged in the petition, to have occured "on or about July 8."

The complainants alleged that when they presented themselves before the registrar for the purpose of registering to vote they were refused, and were told by him that "he had never registered any colored people, had no colored registration blanks, and no colored registration books."

52e-1943
Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

U. S. To Probe S. C. Primary

FEB 1 1 1943

FEB 1 1 1943

Legislature Told Of Federal Order To Prosecute Officials

FEB 1 1 1943

COLUMBIA, S. C. —(SNS)— The United States government plans to prosecute certain officials in South Carolina, the state legislature was told Wednesday and has already instructed U. S. District Attorneys to prepare bills of indictment against certain persons, suspected of violating a federal law in refusing Negroes registration in primary elections held last summer and fall. The disclosure was made by Rep. Calhoun Thomas of Beaufort who has introduced a bill calling for immediate revision of primary election laws in the state in order that indictments might be avoided.

FEB 1 1 1943

An officer of the state-wide Citizens' Committee, the body which initiated a challenge to primary elections in the state, said the disclosure was nothing new to that body, that it had known for two months of federal interests in the condition but had not made public the information because it did not deem it expedient at the time. Reached at his office, James M. Hinton, Secretary to the Committee, would not comment on "additional facts," reported involved but not mentioned by Mr. Thomas before the legislature.

An interesting angle was added by the Beaufort legislator. He told the body he didn't want to live to see the day that federal indictments in such a case would be made in Beaufort county where Negroes are in majority. He reminded the law makers of the case brought in 1940 by Mrs. Lottie P. Gaffney who was refused registration for a general election at Gaffney, S. C. in Cherokee County and took the matter into court. A federal court ruled against her at Spartanburg early last year.

FEB 1 1 1943

The law maker also said Beaufort had a colored police officer as late as 1913, a fact he didn't appreciate, and a Negro postmaster he didn't approve.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

CIRCUIT COURT UPHOLDS TEXAS WHITE PRIMARY

Appeal In Lonnie Smith Case Is Planned By NAACP Counsel

JAN 2 1943

HOUSTON, Texas (ANP) —Texas "white primaries" were upheld last week by the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals at Houston in a ruling on the appeal of Lonnie Smith from the decision of a federal district court approving the exclusion of Negroes from Democratic primaries.

The court upheld the contention that the case was governed by the decision of the U. S. Supreme court several years ago in Grovey vs. Townsend that the Texas Democratic primary is a private affair and that exclusion of Negroes is not in violation of their constitutional right to vote.

JAN 2 1943

The court denied the contention of the appellant that the supreme court in the recently decided Classic case superceded the Grovey decision when it held that the right to cast a vote in the Louisiana primary is one bestowed by the constitution. Interference with this right was considered an "interference with the effective choice of the voters at the only stage of the election process where their choice is of any significance."

In refusing to follow the Classic decision, the court held that it was handed down in a criminal case differing on many points from the present case and did not overrule the Grovey decision. The N.A.A.C.P. which argued the appeal, is seeking a rehearing before the circuit court. If refused, a petition for review will be filed with the U. S. Supreme Court.

JAN 2 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

U. S. Court Upholds Bar Of Texas Primary

NAACP To Seek Rehearing Of The Case

JAN 2 - 1943

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WHITE PRIMARIES

JAN 2 - 1943

SEEK REHEARING

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Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

SEEKS RESTUDY OF TEXAS CURB ON NEGRO VOTES

Washington, D. C., April 21 (AP).— The Supreme court was asked today to decide anew whether a Negro may be barred because of race and color from voting in a Texas Democratic primary to nominate candidates for congress.

APR 22 1943

Attorneys for Lonnie E. Smith, Houston Negro, contended the tribunal should "reëxamine" its 1935 opinion sustaining the exclusion of Negroes from a Texas primary.

It was asserted that the 1935 decision "was based on the theory that the right to participate in the Democratic primary is one of the privileges incidental to membership in the Democratic party of Texas and should not be confused with the right to vote."

APR 2 1943

The petition cited a 1941 Supreme court opinion which was said to hold that in a state where choice at the primary was equivalent to election the right to vote in the primary was derived not from the federal constitution.

June 3, 1943

Florida Legislature Repeals Party Law

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., June 2 (AP)—The Florida Legislature today repealed a law which some members said might lead to Negro voting in White Democratic primaries.

Repeal was advocated on the ground that U. S. Court decisions in Texas and Louisiana cases might some day affect the Florida law under which the state gives to political parties the expressed right to fix the qualifications of their members.

Tribune
Savannah, Ga.

FATE OF WHITE PRIMARY AT STAKE

Case Based on Reusal To Allow Negro

TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 1940 ELECTION

Apr. 29, 1943

Washington, April 23—On April 21, for the fourth time, the question of the "white primary" in the South was taken before the United States Supreme Court by legal counsel of the NAACP.

The decision of this case will determine the fate of the "white primary" not only in Texas but in the other states of the deep South where the "white primary" is now excluding all Negro voters.

The present case arose when Lonne E. Smith of Houston, Tex. was denied to vote in the 1940 primaries. Suit was filed against the election judges of Harris county. The complaint held that the plaintiff had been deprive of rights secured by the 14, 15, 17th amendments of the United States Constitution.

In many southern states he poor Negroes and whites are excluded by the poll tax but in Texas, Alabama, Oklahoma, Louisiana, South Carolina and parts of North Carolina Negroes have been effectively disfranchised by means of discriminatory registration tactics. "The program of the NAACP" said Thurgood Marshall, NAACP special counsel, who has filed a petition for writ of certiorari which raise the following question:

"Does the Constitution of the United States prohibit the exclusion of qualified Negro electors from voting in primary election which are an integral part of the election machinery of the state and which are determinitive of the choice of federal officers?"

NEW YORK, N. Y.—For the first time the legal staff of the state of Texas. Also filed a brief amicus curiae National Association for the Ad by the National Lawyers Guild, vancement of Colored People has supporting the contention of the filed a brief this time titled NAACP attorneys that the dis- Lonnie E. Smith vs. S. E. All-criminatory balloting system wright, in the U. S. Supreme Court attacking the constitution- Court of the White Primary ality) of the

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Court in Fourth Texas White Primary Case

Brief Before Supreme

Several test cases have been filed against discriminatory registration practices culminating with that of Lane v. Wilson from Oklahoma, whereby the United States Supreme Court in 1939 struck down the prac-

Atlanta Ga. World
August 10, 1943

Testing The "White Primary"

The current Texas primary case now before the United States Supreme Court, filed by NAACP lawyers last April, marks the fourth time the question of the White Primary has been before that court for review. The present case, unlike the previous ones, raises but one very definite and specific question. The Association, through its attorneys, asks decision on: "Does the Constitution of the U. S. prohibit the exclusion of qualified Negro electors from voting in primary elections which are an integral part of the election machinery of the State and which are determinative of the choice of federal officers?"

In Texas and other states, poor Negroes and whites too, are disfranchised by means of the poll tax. In states using the "White Primary", all Negroes are effectively disfranchised. In other states like Alabama, Oklahoma, Louisiana, South Carolina and parts of North Carolina, they have been disfranchised by means of discriminatory registration tactics.

It is against this set and system of evils that the Association is aiming its most powerful guns. The right of a democracy to draft men is based upon the theory that they are liable to military duty because they are citizens of a country whose opportunities and handicaps they share equally. Men without the right to vote cannot consider themselves full citizens. Neither can members of their families notwithstanding their patriotism and loyalty, be regarded as citizens.

The NAACP and interested individuals and groups in Texas have for a number of years, planned a new attack upon the "White Primary". Whether such primary is within the prohibitions of the United States Constitution is the test upon which the Association, if successful, hopes to establish for Negroes throughout the country, no less than Texas, the right to participate in the election of all officials, local and national.

That the White Primary is an evil and unfair practice in a democracy, will require no argument to be convincing. It should be abolished and it should be done in the interest and in the spirit of fairplay. Besides, when this is accomplished, no further obstacles should be placed in the pathway of Negroes to vote in any portion of the country. For democracy can scarcely defend itself against the charge of lip-service unless it takes a forthright stand on this elemental right of all people to vote without restriction.

'White Primary' Test To High Court Fourth Time

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Illinois—WASHINGTON—The long legal fight to outlaw the "white primary" in the South is now before the United States Supreme Court.

On June 7 the Supreme Court granted certiorari in the case of Lonnie Smith vs. the election judges in Houston, Texas. The election judges had refused to permit Smith to vote in the Houston primary election.

During the fall term of the Supreme Court there will be argument on this question. In the interim NAACP attorneys are preparing briefs to be submitted prior to argument of the case. The motion of the American Civil Liberties Union to file a brief amicus curiae in this case has also been granted by the U. S. Supreme Court.

The granting of certiorari in the Texas primary case is hailed as a further step in the securing of the franchise for the Negro citizen in the South, Thurgood Marshall, NAACP special counsel who is fighting this case told the press this week. At the same time Marshall condemned the recent subterfuge action of the Florida State Legislature.

Florida Subterfuge

"The State of Florida," Marshall said, "is obviously now attempting the same subterfuge which the state of Texas has been using to prevent Negroes from voting in the white primary."

In other words it is now up to the Democratic party of Florida to determine who shall vote. There is no doubt that the party will continue to exclude Negroes, but the decision in the Texas primary, Marshall said, will determine the subterfuge now being practiced in Texas. This precedent will likewise make or break similar practices in Florida or other states.

The present Texas primary case marks the fourth time the question of the "white primary" has been before the Supreme Court. In 1927, the NAACP carried the case of Nixon vs. Herndon to the Supreme Court which ruled that the state of Texas could not exclude Negroes from the primary by means of a state statute. Texas then passed a statute which gave the power to the executive committee of the Democratic party to decide who should vote in the primary. The executive committee promptly limited the primary to "white" persons.

Win Second Test

In 1932 the NAACP again carried the matter to the Supreme Court where it was decided that this procedure was equally unlawful. The opinion, however, pointed out that the court did not pass upon the question as to whether or not it would be lawful for the Democratic party in convention assembled to decide on who should vote in the primary. At the next convention of the state party, a resolution was passed limiting membership to "white" Democrats.

In 1935 a group of interested citizens in Houston, Texas, carried the third case to the Supreme Court (Grovey vs. Townsend). In that case the United States Supreme Court held that this action in excluding Negroes did **not** violate the Constitution.

An interesting sidelight on the Texas primary is a recent letter from U. S. Senator W. Lee O'Daniel of Texas who, while condemning the anti-poll tax bill to his constituents says: "A general impression is held by a great many people that by abolishing the poll tax, the main gain would be to permit the colored people to vote. That is not the case at all. If Congress should enact this resolution abolishing the poll tax, it would have little effect on the elections in my state of Texas.

"Little Effect"

"The reason it would have little effect is because the elections in Texas are generally determined in the primaries, and not in the general election. Poll tax or no poll tax, colored people are not permitted to vote in the Democratic primaries of Texas. The Democratic party of Texas is an organization which has members, the same as many other organizations, and consequently has the legal right to fix the qualifications of its own members, and this right has been upheld by the Supreme Court of the United States. Destroy that right, and you destroy the right of every political, fraternal, civic, religious and all other organizations to prescribe the qualifications of their members."

Lawyers' Guild Enters Race Case

PM New York, N. Y.

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—The NAACP lawyers' Guild has asked the present case in the Federal court at Houston, challenging the "white primary."

At the trial it was established that the primary in Texas was an integral part of the election machinery of the State and that the voting in the Texas primaries is Democratic primary determined the race discrimination and a violation final election. It is on this point of the Constitution that the NAACP pleads its case for granting of the Writ of Certiorari by the U. S. Supreme court.

It was also established in the Houston case that all white persons were permitted to vote in the "Democratic" primary, regardless of whether they were Democrats, Republicans, Socialists, Communists or Independents.

White Primary Test Case Taken To Supreme Court

Defender Chicago, Ill.

NEW YORK. — "Does the Constitution of the United States prohibit the exclusion of qualified Negro electors from voting in primary elections which are an integral part of the election machinery of the state, and which are determinitive of the choice of Federal officers?"

In an attempt to answer this question of the "white primary" of the South, the NAACP, represented by a battery of legal counsel, headed by Thurgood Marshall and W. J. Durham, has for the fourth time carried a case to the United States Supreme court, where the first hearing was held on April 21.

NAACP associated counsel in the case are the following: William H. Hastie, Washington, D. C.; W. Robert Ming, Chicago; George M. Johnson, Berkeley, Calif.; Leon A. Ransom, Columbus, O.; Prentice Thomas, Louisville and Carter Wesley, Houston, Texas. Marshall is from New York City and Durham, from Sherman, Texas.

Petitioner in the new famous Smith case, whose rights as an elector form the basis for the Supreme court hearing, is Lonnie E. Smith of Houston, Texas, Harris county. The respondents, against whom the action has been filed, because of their action in refusing to permit Smith to vote in the 1940 Texas primaries, are S. E. Allwright, election judge and James J. Luizza, associate election judge, both of Harris county, Texas.

The present case before the high court, is in effect, a petition for a writ of certiorari, to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, for the Fifth Circuit, Houston Division.

Petitioner Lonnie Smith, represented by the NAACP, is seeking issuance of the Writ of Certiorari to review the judgment of the Texas Circuit court, which affirmed a final judgment in favor of the election official respondents.

If the petition for the writ is allowed by the Supreme court, the Texas Jim Crow primary case will be re-opened, and the way paved for a possible reversal. As a result, the "white primary," is on

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WHITE PRIMARIES

Poll Taxers' Rule Faces Test In Texas White-Primary Case

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
NOV 26 1943

By Eva Lapin
(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—The Supreme Court is now considering a case involving the lily-white Southern primary in Texas which ranks second in importance to the anti-poll tax bill in the fight to bring democracy to the South.

If the Supreme Court should rule that primaries from which Negroes are specifically barred by name are in violation of the Constitution, this will be the first practical wedge into poll-tax rule in the Southern states.

Last week the Court heard arguments in the case of Lonnie Smith, who brought suit against Texas, specifically two election judges in Harris County, Houston, who barred him from voting in the 1940 primary election.

Since primaries in the South are in fact the real elections, Smith instituted the present case to ask for a ruling on his right to vote.

This is the fourth time in 16 years that the Texas lily-white primary issue has been up before the Supreme Court. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has been carrying on the fight [illegible] Smith in his present appeal.

Smith is basing his apeal on a decision handed down by the Court two years ago in the Classic case in which the Court ruled that in states where primaries in fact constitute elections the right of a voter is secured by Article I of the Constitution. Both the Federal District Court in Houston and the Fifth Circuit Court of appeals ruled the Classic case didn't apply.

In order to get around that decision, Texas passed a new law authorizing the Democratic Party to prescribe voting requirements for membership and the state convention voted to admit only "white Democrats." Since Democratic Party requirements in effect constitute voting qualifications, this ban achieved the same result.

As a matter of fact there have been only two cases since 1859 in which Democratic Party candidates in Texas have been defeated.

In 1935, however, the Supreme Court reversed itself in the case of Grovey vs. Townsend and conservative Justice Owen Roberts read the unanimous opinion of the court that the Democratic Party ban against Negroes was legal because it was the act of the party, which conducts the primaries, rather than the State.

Since 1935, the complexion of the Supreme Court has changed considerably for the better, and there is hope that the reactionary interpretation of 1935 will be reversed.

Texas Primary Case Goes to Supreme Court

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
NOV 4 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 3.—The constitutionality of the Texas white primary laws will be attacked for the third time by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in argument before the U. S. Supreme Court on Nov. 10.

Supporting the NAACP contention that the discriminatory balloting system should be abolished, briefs amicus curiae hav been filed by the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Lawyers Guild.

Of the three previous cases carried from Texas to the Supreme Court, the first two were decided in favor of Negroes, but were successfully nullified by changes in Texas Democratic Party procedure. The third case, Grovey vs. Townsend, not handled by the NAACP, was decided against Negroes on the grounds that the Texas state Democratic convention had the right to restrict membership in the party.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.
NOV 6 1943

Supreme Court to Hear Texas White Primary Case Wednesday

The constitutionality of the Texas White Primary laws will be attacked for the third time by NAACP lawyers on argument before the U.S. Supreme Court on November 10.

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Basis for NAACP argument in support of its third case is supplied by the recent United States vs. Classic case which, involving the Louisiana primary essentially similar to the Texas system, was decided in favor of Classic, the high court judgment being that the primary election was "an integral part of the procedure of choice" being conducted "under color of" state law and therefore subject to federal control.

American Civil Liberties Union and National Lawyers Guild Supports NAACP as Case Is Heard by Tribunal Third Time

WASHINGTON — The constitutionality of the Texas White Primary laws will be attacked for the third time by NAACP lawyers in argument before the U.S. Supreme Court on November 10.

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Adding weight to their claim that the Negro suffrage and anti-discrimination amendments to the Constitution are being deliberately [illegible] NAACP attorneys have established that in an actual white primary election, Texas white members of any political party are permitted to vote while all Negroes, regardless of party affiliations, were barred from the polls. The supporting brief submitted by the National Lawyers Guild asserts: "For the defendant Wright, the election judge, frankly admitted this discrimination. No attempt was made to determine whether white persons were, or were not, party members. He said: 'Q. Mr. Allwright, when a white person comes into the polling place during the primary election of '40 and asks for a ballot to vote do you ever ask them what party they belong to? A. No, we never ask them. 'J. As a matter of fact, if a white elector comes into the polling place to vote in the Democratic primary election, he is given a ballot that is that correct? A. Right. 'Q. And Negroes are not permitted to vote in the primary election? A. They don't vote in the primary. 'Q. But any white person that is qualified; regardless of what party they belong to, can vote? A. That is right. 'Q. And you do let them vote? A. Yes'."

Afro-American

White Primary and Poll Tax Scored by Willkie

Baltimore, Md.
DEC 18 1943

WASHINGTON

Opposition to the poll tax and white primary was expressed last week by Wendell Willkie who said that any measure which deprived citizens of the vote "is inimical to the interests of all citizens."

Mr. Willkie's statement, which was part of a message to the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, follows:

Hurts Interests of All

"Efforts to deny improperly to any citizen his constitutional right to vote, whether by poll tax or by democratic white primary, must be resisted and opposed by every American.

"Any measure which deprives any group of citizens in our country from exercising the inherent rights as set forth in the Constitution is inimical to the interests of all citizens."

'White Primary' Issue Comes Up In U. S. Supreme Court Today

The U. S. Supreme Court today starts hearings on the issue of the "white primary" which, together with the poll tax, prevents millions of Negroes in the South from exercising their Constitutional right to suffrage. PM New York, N. Y.

The case revolves specifically around the Texas white primary system. Its operation is simple. Texas is strictly a one-party state. A candidate who wins in the Democratic primary race is certain to be elected. Only twice during the past 83 years has a Democratic candidate for major political office been beaten in Texas. (One of these two was Al Smith, who was knifed by anti-Catholic Klan elements in the presidential election of 1928.)

The only ballot that counts in Texas is the one cast in the primary election. Only the Democratic party holds primaries there. And the Texas Democratic party, like that in three other Southern states, specifically bars Negroes from voting in its primaries.

The National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is challenging the constitutionality of this system through its attorneys, William H. Hastie and Thurgood Marshall. The American Civil Liberties Union and the National Lawyers Guild have both filed briefs as "friends of the court" in support of the NAACP case.

Eluding the Law

This is the fourth time the white primary issue has come before the Supreme Court. In 1927 the Court declared unconstitutional a Texas State law excluding Negroes from the primary. Texas then passed a statute empowering the executive committee of the Democratic party to decide who should vote in the primary. Whereupon the party's executive committee limited primary voting to "white" persons. In 1932 the U. S. Supreme Court ruled that this procedure also violated Constitutional guarantees.

The very next convention of the Texas Democratic party then adopted a resolution limiting membership to "white" Democrats. When the issue was brought before the Supreme Court for the third time in 1935, the Court ruled that this Negro-barring action did not violate the Constitution.

Since then the Supreme Court, in a decision on a 1941 case involving primary elections in Louisiana, has declared:

"Where the state law has made the primary an integral part of the procedure of choice, or where in fact the primary effectively controls the choice, the right of the elector to have his ballot counted in the primary is rightfully included in the right in Article I, Section 2 (of the Constitution)."

Although this decision did not involve the question of Negro exclusion, the NAACP is basing its present appeal on the Court's broad interpretation of primary rights. There can be no doubt that the choice of political candidates in Texas is determined at the primaries and that the Negro is effectively denied his right of suffrage when he is barred from casting his ballot in primary elections.

Whites Only

A peculiar twist in the Texas suffrage set-up is that *any* white citizen who pays his poll tax can vote in the Democratic Party primary regardless of his political affiliation or belief. He may be a Republican, a Socialist, a Single Taxer or Communist; the Democratic primary is open to him. He need not register as a Democrat. No questions are asked when he enters the polling place. But the most fervent Democrat will be barred if he happens to be colored.

The Negro in Texas is thus placed under the double handicap of poll tax and white primary in trying to exercise his citizenship rights.

It has been argued that the white primary and the poll tax, however deplorable, are matters which each state must settle itself, free from Federal interference. The fact is that both subterfuges for depriving citizens of suffrage affect the election not only of local and state candidates, but of Congressmen and Presidents.

It is certainly a matter of national concern that men like Martin Dies attain powerful places in the nation through the workings of undemocratic voting devices. The protection of every citizen in the fundamental right to vote is likewise a matter of national concern.

Texas Defends Negro Vote Bar

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The State of Texas, in a brief filed in Supreme Court, supported the constitutionality of exclusion of Negroes from voting in State party primary elections which has been challenged by Lonnie Smith, a Houston Negro.

The brief asserted that the questions to be determined were whether an election judge in a primary election is a State officer, and whether the white Democrats in Texas, or any other political group in Texas, can determine who shall constitute the party which desire to organize.

Democrats Of Texas Defend Party's Rules

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Supreme Court Is Told Whites Had All Rights To Organize Party

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—(AP)—Atty. Gen. Gerald C. Main of Texas told the Supreme Court today that Democrats in that State had a right to limit the party's membership to white persons and thereby exclude negroes from voting at a party primary at which Federal officers are nominated.

Mann made the contention in a brief filed in the case of Lonnie E. Smith, Houston negro excluded from voting in a 1940 primary by the election judges of the 48th precinct of Harris County, Texas.

Smith's attorneys contended that the Supreme Court held in a Louisiana case in 1941 that in a State where election at the primary is the equivalent of final election the right to vote in the primary stems from the Federal constitution and not from the party.

Replying to Smith's assertion that a political party in Texas cannot determine who shall be members, Mann declared that "to say that any group of citizens cannot lawfully assemble and organize a political party for the purpose" of nominating candidates for office would deprive them of their rights under the first amendment to the Constitution and the Texas bill of rights.

Mann argued that any group in Texas has the right to organize a political party. For example, he said, if the State's 540,000 adult negroes chose to form a party and exclude all persons except negroes from membership, there is nothing to interfere.

Likewise, he said, the State's 400,000 Mexicans "unquestionably" had the constitutional right to organize a party composed solely of Mexicans.

"By the same token and reason there cannot be any reason," he said, "why the white Democrats in Texas may not organize for themselves a political party in Texas.

"Whether this is wise is not a question for the courts to determine and, we submit, is a matter over which the courts cannot within the Constitution exercise or control their actions. For the courts to say that any group of citizens cannot meet peacefully and quietly, and nominate candidates for political offices would be to deny them the inalienable rights for which our forefathers fought and the principles upon which this government is founded."

Mann submitted his brief after the Supreme Court had ordered reargument in the case to give the State an opportunity to be heard.

Texas Att'y Gen'l Rules Primary Valid

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — Gerald C. Mann, Attorney - General of Texas told Supreme Court Monday that Democrats in that state had a right to limit the party's membership to white persons and thereby exclude Negroes from voting at a party primary at which federal officers are nominated.

Mann made the contention in a brief filed in the case of Lonnie E. Smith, Houston Negro excluded from voting in a 1940 primary by the election of judges of the Forty-eighth precinct of Harris County, Tex.

Smith's attorney contended that the Supreme Court held in a Louisiana case in 1941 that in a state where election at the primary is the equivalent of final election the right to vote in the primary stems from the Federal Constitution and not from the party.

Replying to Smith's assertion that a political party in Texas cannot determine who shall be members, Mann declared that "to say that any group of citizens cannot lawfully assemble and organize a political party for the purpose of nominating candidates for office would deprive them of their rights under the first amendment to the Constitution and the Texas Bill of Rights.

Mann argued that any group in Texas has the right to organize a political party. For example, he said, if the state's 540,000 adult Negroes chose to form a party and exclude all persons execpt Negroes from membership, there is nothing to interfere.

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WHITE PRIMARIES

Lawyers' Guild Seeks To Enter Texas' White Primary Case

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa

DEC 30 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP)—The National Lawyers' guild, through its committee on civil rights and liberties, of which Osmond R. Fraenkel is chairman, has asked the United States Supreme court for permission to file a brief amicus curiae in the Texas white primary case. This is one of the most important cases before the Supreme Court, and will have a profound effect on the whole question of political rights for Negroes and the fight against discrimination.

The pending case, Smith vs. Allwright, challenges the right of a political party to prevent Negroes from voting in primaries. A few years ago the court, in the case of Grovey vs. Townsend, ruled that the 14th Amendment did not prevent political parties from imposing restrictions on their membership. The brief of the National Lawyers guild points out that under Texas law, candidates for political office must be chosen at primary elections, and winning in the Democratic primaries is tantamount to election.

Where Jim Crow Leads

Age New York, N. Y.

DEC 30 1943

Last Nov. 10, when exclusion of Negroes from the Democratic primaries in Texas was before the Supreme Court, the State of Texas did not make an appearance. I am told by persons in close touch with the case that the Court disliked handing down a decision without hearing from officials of the state government and somehow got word to that effect to them. The Attorney General of Texas, Gerald C. Mann, has now kindly consented to file a brief amicus curiae, and this brief presents an extraordinary argument to the Court.

The case was brought by Dr. Lonnie E. Smith, a Houston dentist and lifelong Democrat. He presented himself at the party polls with his poll-tax receipt in the 1940 primary, but was denied the right to cast his ballot because of his color.

This is clear from the testimony of S. E. Allwright, the election judge who was in charge of the polling place from which Smith was barred. When white persons appear at the primary and ask for a ballot was the question put to Allwright, "Do you ever ask them what party they belong to?" The answer was: "No, we never do."

Q. And Negroes are not permitted to vote in the primary election? A. They don't vote in the primary.

Q. But any white person that is qualified, regardless of what party they belong to, they can vote? A. That is right.

Former Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes once wrote that one reason for the development of primaries was that in "the South, where nomination by the Democratic Party meant election, it was obvious that the will of the electorate would not be expressed at all, unless it was expressed at the primary. Texas recognizes this by requiring only the Democratic Party to hold primaries.

The Attorney General of Texas tackled no easy chore in defending this case. For in 1941 the Supreme Court held, in a similar situation in Louisiana, that "where in fact the primary effectively controls the choice, the right of the elector to have his ballot counted at the primary" is a right protected by the Constitution.

DEC 30 1943

The Attorney General's argument is more revealing than relevant.

"Have the white Democrats of Texas," he asks baldly, "the right to determine who or what class of people or voters shall constitute the party they desire to organize?"

DEC 30 1943

He answers it by saying that there is nothing in the law to prevent the 540,000 adult Negroes of Texas, or the state's 400,000 Mexicans, from forming parties of their own.

"By the same token and reason," he says, "there cannot be any reason why the white Democrats in Texas may not organize for themselves a political party in Texas."

He does not add that the "lily-white" Democrats of Texas could outvote both the Negroes and the Mexicans put together, and that their exclusion from the Democratic Party primary would and does deprive them of any real political influence.

But the objection to this proposal, even from these minorities, is not a statistical one. Its danger lies in its unabashed invitation to the organization of American voters, not on the basis of our traditional party system, nor of principles, but on the basis of race and color. Its danger lies in its provocative and subversive suggestion that members of these minorities cease to think of themselves and to vote simply as Americans. There are countries in which parties have been organized on such a basis, but none of them is free. In all of them, divisions of this kind opened the door to foreigr conquerors. I do not think thoughtful Southerners, white or black, want to see the day when white and Negro parties contend for mastery in the South. The Attorney General of Texas has unwittingly served a useful function by demonstrating where the logic of the Jim Crow primary leads.

Chicago, Illinois
Chicago Tribune

DEFENDS RIGHT OF TEXAS PARTY TO BAR NEGROES

DEC 28 1943

Washington, Dec. 27 (AP).—Atty. Gen. Gerald C. Mann of Texas told the Supreme court today that Democrats in that state have a right to limit the party's membership to white persons and thereby exclude Negroes from voting at a party primary in which federal officers are nominated.

Mann made the contention in a brief filed in the case of Lonnie E. Smith, Houston Negro excluded from voting in a 1940 primary by the election judges of the 48th precinct of Harris county, Texas.

Smith's attorneys contended that the Supreme court had held in a Louisiana case in 1941 that in a state where nomination at the primary is equivalent to final election, the right to vote at the primary stems from the federal Constitution and not from the party.

DEC 28 1943

Defends Right to Organize.

Replying to Smith's assertion that a political party in Texas cannot determine who shall be members, Mann charged that "to say that any group of citizens cannot lawfully assemble and organize a political party" for the purpose of nominating candidates for office would deprive them of their right under the first amendment to the Constitution and the Texas bill of rights.

Mann argued that any group in Texas has the right to organize a political party. For example, he said, if the state's 540,000 adult Negroes choose to form a party and exclude all persons except Negroes from membership, there is nothing to prevent them from doing so.

Likewise, he said, the state's 400,000 Mexicans could "peaceably" have the constitutional right to organize a party composed solely of Mexicans.

DEC 28 1943

Claims Same Right for Whites.

"By the same token there cannot be any reason," he said, "why the white Democrats in Texas may not organize for themselves a political party in Texas.

"Whether this is wise is not a question for the courts to determine and, we submit, is a matter over which the courts cannot within the Constitution exercise or control their actions."

Mann submitted his brief after the Supreme court had ordered new arguments in the case to give the state an opportunity to be heard.

Mann emphasized that he was not representing the Democratic party. He asserted that he felt impelled to file the brief because the question involved "is of such importance to the citizenship of Texas and to the preservation of the purity of the ballot in primary elections."

DEC 28 1943

NEW WHITE PRIMARY TEST IN HIGH COURT

Defender Chicago, Ill

OCT 9 1943

NEW YORK—For the third time the legal staff of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has filed a brief, this time titled "Lonnie E. Smith vs. S. E. Allwright," in the U. S. Supreme Court attacking the constitutionality of the white primary laws of the state of Texas.

Also filed was a brief amicus curiae by the National Lawyers Guild, supporting the contention of the N.A.A.C.P. attorneys that the discriminatory balloting system should be abolished.

Of the three previous cases carried from Texas to the supreme court, the first two were decided in favor Negroes, but were successfully nullified by changes in Texas Democratic party procedure. The third case, "Grovey vs. Townsend," not handled by the N.A.A.C.P., was decided against Negroes on the grounds that the Texas State Democratic Convention had the right to restrict membership to the party.

Basis for N.A.A.C.P. argument in support of its third case is supplied by the recent "United States vs. Classic" case which, involving the Louisiana primary essentially similar to the Texas system, was decided in favor of Classic, the high court judgment being that the primary election was "an integral part of the procedure of choice" being conducted "under color of" state law and therefore subject to federal control.

Adding weight to their claims that the Negro suffrage and anti-discrimination amendments to the constitution are being deliberately flaunted, N.A.A.C.P. attorneys have established that in an actual white primary election in Texas white members of any political party are permitted to vote while all Negroes, regardless of party affiliation, were barred from the polls.

The brief is filed for the October term of the Supreme court. Supporting counsel Thurgood Marshall and Judge William H. Hastie, N.A.A.C.P. special counsel and national legal committee head, respectively, were W. J. Durham, Sherman, Texas; W. Robert Ming Jr., Chicago; George M. Johnson, Berkeley, Calif.; Leon A. Ransom, Columbus, Ohio; Carter Wesley, Houston, and Milton R. Konvitz, Newark, N.J.

52e-1943

White Primaries

May Doom Lily-White Primaries

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

WASHINGTON, June 10—The lily-white Democratic primary which, next to the poll tax, has been the greatest barrier to Negro voting rights, may be declared null and void by the United States Supreme court next fall when the case of Lonnie Smith versus S. E. Allwright and James Luizza, is argued by attorneys for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Monday, the court granted a writ of certiorari in the case and set it down for a hearing at the fall session.

Smith, a registered voter, who had paid his poll tax, was barred from voting in the Houston, Texas, Democratic primary by two precinct captains (Allwright and Luizza) on the sole grounds that he was a Negro. In their defense of this action, the two precinct captains claimed that the Supreme Court in the Grovey versus Townsend case had held that primary elections were not an integral part of the Federal election.

The fact that the court had granted a writ indicates a strong possibility that Grovey versus Townsend, the fourth Texas primary case, will be overruled and that Negroes will win the right to participate in primary elections in the one-party system of the South.

Coming simultaneously with the victory in the House of the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill, the court action is hailed by observers here as of utmost importance to future citizenship rights of Negroes in the South.

Can Take Own Power

They made no effort to conceal the inference that such inherent power as political parties possess, without having it specifically delegated by law, would be sufficient to exclude colored citizens from participation in Democratic primaries.

Uneasiness over the now-repealed law was inspired by U.S. Supreme Court decisions in white-primary cases in Texas and Louisiana.

Lily-White Elections Supreme Court Issue

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

For the third time the legal staff of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has filed a brief in the U. S. Supreme Court attacking the constitutionality of the white primary laws of the state of Texas. Also filed was a brief by the National Lawyers Guild, supporting the contention of the NAACP attorneys that the discriminatory balloting system should be abolished.

Of the three previous cases carried from Texas to the Supreme Court, the first two were decided in favor of Negroes, but were successively nullified by changes in Texas Democratic Party procedure. The third case was decided against Negroes on the grounds that the Texas state Democratic convention had the right to restrict membership to the party.

Basis for NAACP argument in support of its third case is supplied by the recent United States vs. Classic case which, involving the Louisiana primary, essentially similar to the Texas system, was decided in favor of Classic, the High Court judgment being that the primary election was "an integral part of the procedure of choice" being conducted "under color of" state law and therefore subject to federal control.

Adding weight to their claim that the Negro suffrage and anti-discrimination amendments to the Constitution are being deliberately flaunted, NAACP attorneys have established that in an actual white primary election in Texas white members of any political party are permitted to vote while all Negroes, regardless of party affiliation, were barred from the polls.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WOULD LEND AID IN WHITE PRIMARY CASE

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — The National Lawyers guild, through its committee on civil rights and liberties, of which Osmond K. Kraenkel is chairman, has asked the United States Supreme court for permission to file a brief amicus curiae in the Texas white primary case. This is one of the most important cases before the supreme court, and will have a profound effect on the whole question of political rights for Negroes and the fight against discrimination.

The pending case, Smith vs. Allwright, challenges the right of a political party to prevent Negroes from visiting in primaries. A few years ago the court, in the case of Grovey vs. Townsend, ruled that the 14th amendment did not prevent political parties from imposing restrictions on their membership. The brief of the National Lawyers guild points out that under Texas law, candidates for political office must be chosen at primary elections, and winning in the Democratic primaries is tantamount to election.

Obviously, under such circumstances the action of the Democratic party cannot be treated as though it were merely the action of a private body. Its act in preventing Negroes from voting in the primaries directly affects their right to exercise their franchise. That it is discrimination on the ground of race is clearly proven by the fact that all white voters are permitted to vote in the Democratic primary, no questions being asked as to their party affiliation.

The guild's brief concludes that on the basis of these facts, the supreme court should rule that the exclusion of Negroes from voting in the primaries, being discriminatio based on race, violates the Constitution and must be prohibited.

HIGH COURT TERM OPENS TOMORROW

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Cases Involving Conscientious Objectors and OPA Rent Control Act on Docket

NEGRO BRINGS VOTE ISSUE

Texas Primary Ban Challenged —Trust and Utility Rulings Await Bench Quorum

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2 (AP)—Litigation involving application of the Selective Service Act to conscientious objectors awaits action by the Supreme Court when it reassembles Monday for the 1943-44 term.

Other major cases involve the constitutionality of Office of Price Administration rent control regulations and the right of a Negro to vote in a Texas Democratic primary to nominate candidates for Congress. About 400 cases have been docketed.

One of the draft act cases was filed by Arthur Goodwyn Billings, a former teacher at the University of Texas, who challenged a Circuit Court ruling that he was legally inducted into the Army when, after he had refused to take the induction oath, it was read to him.

He said that he was opposed to war and intended, if he passed the physical examination at Fort Leavenworth, to turn himself over to civil authorities for punishment. He had spent the last year in the guardhouse, he stated.

Fight 5-Year Sentences

Pending are cases filed by Walter Ford Gormly of Milwaukee and Nick Falbo of Westmoreland County, Pa., who were sentenced to five years' imprisonment for failure to report for work at conscientious objector camps.

Gormly contended that working at the camp would make him "a participant in the war machine and an accessory to murder on the battlefield." Falbo, a member of Jehovah's Witnesses, asserted that he was an ordained minister exempt from training and service.

The constitutionality of rent control provisions of the Emergency Price Control Act was challenged by Stanley W. Taylor of San Francisco, who declared that the provisions converted the OPA administrator into a "one-man Legislature."

In the Texas primary case, the Supreme Court was urged to reexamine its 1935 opinion sustaining the exclusion of a Negro from voting.

The new appeal was filed by Lonnie E. Smith, Houston Negro, to whom the election judges denied a vote in 1940. The action was upheld by the Federal District Court at Houston and by the Fifth Federal Circuit Court.

Decision of 1941 Cited

Attorneys for Smith contended that the Supreme Court, in a 1941 decision, had ruled that in a State where choice at the primary was tantamount to election, the right to vote in the primary was derived from the Federal Constitution.

Still pending are two outstanding cases on which action has been prevented by lack of a quorum. The law specifies that six justices constitute a quorum. Four of the nine justices have disqualified themselves from acting in these cases because of previous connection with the litigation. Legislation is pending in Congress to lower the quorum to five justices.

One of the cases involves Justice Department charges that the Aluminum Company of America violated the Sherman Anti-Trust Act by possessing a monopoly in the production and sale of aluminum. The Federal District Court at New York held that the charges had not been proved.

At issue in the other case is the constitutionality of the "death sentence" provision of the 1935 Public Utility Holding Company Act. The provision was upheld by the Federal Circuit Court at New York in litigation specifically involving the North American Company.

Some of the other petitions awaiting action involve:

1. The conviction of John Klinger, alias Jacob Klinger, of New York, on a charge of unlawfully possessing and transporting gasoline rationing coupons.
2. Whether full-time Los Angeles news boys are employes of a newspaper and are covered by the National Labor Relations Act.

WHITE PRIMARY BRIEF BEFORE SUPREME COURT

Atlanta, Ga. OCT 5 1943

Daily World

the third time the legal staff of the National Association for the

NEW YORK, N. Y.—(SNS)—For

Fla. Seeks to Forestall U.S. Vote Mandate

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—In an admitted effort to forestall possible Federal interference with Florida's lily-white Democratic primaries, the State Legislature last week repealed a State law giving political parties the expressed right to fix membership qualifications.

With the law off the statute books, advocates of repeal contended, the U.S. Supreme Court could not declare it unconstitutional.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 84

Advancement of Colored People has filed a brief, this time titled Lonnie E. Smith, vs. S. E. Allwright, in the U. S. Supreme Court attacking the constitutionality of the White Primary laws of the state of Texas. Also filed was a brief of amicus curiae by the National Lawyers Guild, supporting the contention of the NAACP attorneys that the discriminatory balloting system should be abolished.

Of the three previous cases carried from Texas to the Supreme Court, the first two were decided in favor of Negroes, but were successively nullified by changes in Texas Democratic Party procedure. The third case, Grovey vs Townsend, not handled by the NAACP was decided against Negroes on the grounds that the Texas State Democratic Convention had the right to restrict membership to the party. Basis for NAACP argument in support of its third case is supplied by the recent United States vs. Classic case which involving the Louisiana Primary essentially similar to the Texas system, was decided in favor of Classic, the High Court judgment being that the Primary election was "an integral part of the procedure of choice" being conducted "under color of" state law and therefore subject to federal control. Adding weight to their claim that the Negro suffrage and anti-discrimination amendments to the Constitution are being deliberately flaunted, NAACP attorneys have established that in an actual White Primary election in Texas white members of any political party are permitted to vote while all Negroes regardless of party affiliation, were barred from the polls.

The brief is filed for the October term of the Supreme Court. Supporting as counsel Thurgood Marshall and Judge William H. Hastie, NAACP Special Counsel and National Legal Committee head, respectively, were W. J. Durham, Sherman, Texas; W. Robert Ming, Jr., Chicago; George M. Johnson, Berkeley, California; Leon A. Ransom, Columbus, Ohio; Carter Wesley, Houston; and Milton R. Konvitz, Newark, N. J.

Supreme Court to Open 8-Month Term Today

OCT 4 1943 Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

Washington, Oct. 3 (AP)—With 400 cases already docketed, the Supreme Court will open tomrrow its new 1943-44 term. It is expected to produce far-reaching decisions on a variety of wartime litigation.

Some of the outstanding cases awaiting action involve the application of the draft act to conscientious objectors, the constitutionality of Federal rent control regulations, and the right of a Negro to vote in a state primary which nominates candidates for Congress.

More cases are arriving daily to occupy the court's attention during the next eight months. It has been in recess since June 21.

There has been no change in the membership of the court since last February 15, when Justice Wiley Rutledge succeeded James F. Byrnes, who had resigned the previous October to become economic stabilization director.

Only one member of the court—Chief Justice Stone, who will be 71 on October 11—is eligible to retire at full pay because of having reached the age of 70 and having served ten years on the bench. He still is going strong.

Ranking next in age is 68-year-old Owen J. Roberts, the only member of the tribunal not appointed by President Roosevelt in his present position. Roberts, a Pennsylvania Republican, was appointed by President Hoover in 1930.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Supreme Court Hears White Primary Case

Lawyers Depend on High Court Ruling in La. Case to Win

EXCLUSION BASED ON RACE OUTLAWED

Tax Officials Fail to File Briefs; Opinion Expected in 3-6 Wks.

WASHINGTON

H. Hastie and Thurgood Marshall, NAACP attorneys, began the fourth Supreme Court test of the legality of the Texas white primary.

The respondents in the case failed to submit brief or to be represented by counsel.

two attorneys told a packed court's decision in favor of the officials was inconsistent with the stances identical with those of the Smith case, was decided against Grovey in 1935.

New Facts Revealed

counsel last week were:

INSERT (A)—

Other Cases Reviewed

The case was continued on Friday. An opinion is expected to be handed down within three to six weeks.

This marks the fourth time that the Texas white primary case has been before the Supreme Court.

The first case was carried up and won in 1927. The court held the Texas law excluding colored people from t ehDemocratic primary was unconstitutional. The Texas Legislature then changed the law.

NOV 20 1943

In the second case, which was won in 1932, the high court held that the Texas Legislature could not transfer power to the State Democratic Committee to exclude colored voters from the primary.

In this opinion the Supreme Court suggested to Texas how it might lawfully accomplish what it desired. Texas acted accordingly.

The third case which was taken to the Supreme Court was lost.

Advertiser Montgomery, Ala.

Texas Negroes Seek Democratic Franchise

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.—(AP—The Supreme Court was urged today to rule that negroes have a constitutional right to vote in a Texas Democratic primary which nominates candidates for Congress.

Thurgood Marshall, New York attorney, and William H. Hastie, Washington, D. C., attorney, argued before the tribunal that its 1935 decision sustaining the exclusion of negroes from a Texas primary was based upon factual mistakes and should be overruled.

They represented Lonnie E. Smith, Houston negro, who was prevented from voting in a 1940 primary by the election judges of the 48th Precinct of Harris County, Texas.

No one appeared on behalf of the election judges—S. E. Allwright and James B. Baiza—and no brief was filed in defense of their action.

Marshall said there was no record now in existence of a resolution adopted by the Democratic Party in Texas excluding negroes from voting in primaries and that "any white persons was permitted to vote if he had a poll tax receipt."

He cited a 1941 Supreme Court opinion which he said held that in a State where a choice at the primary was tantamount to election the right to vote in the primary was derived from the Constitution and not from the party.

He contended that the 1941 opinion, in a case from Louisiana, was "ignored" by the Federal Circuit Court in upholding the exclusion of Smith.

Olav Primary Case Before Supreme Court

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Texas Fights Fourth Time to Keep Voters from Polls

HIGH COURT'S SCORE NOW STANDS 2 TO 1

Victory This Time Will Give Dixie Third Black Eye

WASHINGTON.

The U.S. Supreme Court has before it for the fourth time a case to determine whether the State of Texas can limit voters in the primaries to whites only. Arguments may be heard this week or next.

The first case was carried up and won in 1927. The court held the Texas law excluding colored people from the Democratic primary unconstitutional. The Texas legislature then changed the law.

The NAACP then took up the second case and won it in 1932. The high court held that the Texas legislature could not transfer power to the State Democratic Committee to exclude colored voters from the primary.

In its opinion in the 1932 case, the Supreme Court suggested to Texas how it might lawfully accomplish what it desired. Texas acted accordingly.

The third case was taken to the Supreme Court (not by the NAACP) and this case was lost.

An adverse decision always hurts chances for a new test case and the NAACP bided its time with the result that it filed this present suit, Smith vs. Allwright, in which it thinks it has a reasonable chance of victory.

In its brief, presented to the court on behalf of Lonnie E. Smith vs. S. E. Alright, Texas election judge in Harris County and others, attorneys are Thurgood Marshall and former Judge William H. Hastie.

These attorneys declare in the brief that they rely on the U.S. vs. Classic, the Louisiana case in which the Supreme Court held that primary elections are subject to Federal control.

A statement issued by the association declares that the abolition of the white primary is important because it bars hundreds of thousands of colored people from the ballot boxes, although not as many as the poll tax.

Supreme Court to Air White Primary Case November 10

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

The constitutionality of the Texas white primary laws will be attacked for the third time by NAACP lawyers in argument before the U.S. Supreme Sourt on November 10.

Supporting the NAACP contention that the discriminatory balloting system should be abolished, briefs amicus curiae have been filed by the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Lawyers' Guild.

Of the three previous cases carried from Texas to the Supreme Court, the first two were won, but were successively nullified by changes in Texas Democratic party procedure. The third, not handled by the NAACP was lost.

Cites Classic Case

Basis for NAACP argument in support of its third case is supplied by the recent U.S. vs. Classic case, which, involving the Louisiana primary, essentially similar to the Texas system, was decided in favor of Classic.

The high court ruled that the primary election was "an integral part of the procedure of choice" being conducted "under color of" State law and therefore subject to Federal control.

Adding weight to their claim that anti-discrimination amendments to the Constitution are being deliberately flaunted, NAACP attorneys contend that in white primary elections, Texas whites of any political party was permitted to vote, while all colored people are barred from the polls.

52f-1943

CIVIC LEADER


Defender
Chicago, Ill.
SEP 18 1943
SEP 18 1943

MRS. IRENE McCOY GAINES

Mrs. Gaines Fights Hard To End Discrimination

By DETON J. BROOKS JR.

The best way to turn sweet affable Irene McCoy Gaines into a buzzing, stinging bee-like fighter, is to compromise on Negro rights. There's no place in her books for an appeaser—for the boys of the "The time isn't right yet," school.

In her profession as a social worker, her vocation as a civic leader, and her avocation as a politician, she's been consistently forceful in demanding equal opportunity for people of her race.

If you meet Irene Gaines in the course of a social evening, her quiet, friendly demeanor will fool you. Meet her on another occasion when some white person has subtedly favored a move toward more segregation, or a back-sliding, weak-kneed, Dr. Patterson-like Negro has cringed before a racial bigot, then you see the force, the fight, and the power of this frail woman.

Something in her past has made her as she is. It maybe her northern training—she's been in Chicago since she was a tiny baby, or it may be an intensely instinctive hate of prejudice. At any rate no one will ever question whose side she's on.

Born In South

Irene was born in Ocala, Fla., and was brought to Chicago as an infant. After attending elementary and high school here she went to Fisk university. After graduation she returned to the city and took special courses at the University of Chicago and Loyola university in social service administration.

Her first job was as a typist with the juvenile court. While she was just a routine employee there, Mrs. Gaines considers this experience invaluable. "So many different cases came up, that I gained a rich experience in youth behavior," Mrs. Gaines commented during the course of our interview

She started her professional career with the Urban League serving in the capacity as examiner in the Women's Division of the agency's employment department. By the time she had spent a couple of in this organization, the World War I had involved the United States. At the insistence of Mary Church Terrell, Mrs. Gaines qualified for War Camp Community Service.

The big job then as now was morale. After special and intensive courses at Hampton Institute, Irene Gaines returned to the city and carried on a varied number of neighborhood projects. She also was in charge of entertainment for soldiers who were on leave.

"Y" Secretary

Following the war she served as industrial secretary of the Y.W.C.A. organizing athletic and social programs for young women in industry. She was at the 'Y' 3½ years. Then she married, taking time out to give birth to two sons, and get them over the early humps of infancy.

In 1932 she went back to her profession accepting appointment as case worker in Cook county Bureau of Public Welfare. And after four and one-half years she transferred to the Old Age Assistance Service.

All the white Mrs. Gaines was working, she was also carrying on two-fold activities in politics and civic affairs. Her interest in government dated back to the time her uncle George W. Ellis was appointed Secretary of Legation to Liberia by President Theodore Roosevelt. As a youngster she attended political meeting with him and as his knowledge of world affairs widened she in turn learned more from him about these matters.

Enters Politics

She affiliated with the second ward Republican Organization and in 1932 was appointed by President Hoover a member of the National Housing Commission. This took her to the White House on several occasions.

She also became State Central Committeewoman for the 1st Congressional District. And in the spring of 1940 she ran as an independent Republican candidate for the state legislature. In this election she trailed closely behind the regular machine.

Mrs. Gaines has spent considerable energy and time working in women's club organizations. When she was president of the Chicago Federation of Colored Women's clubs she took leave from her job so that she could devote all her time to this assignment. At the present time she is president of the State organization and historian of the national body.

She doesn't have time for many hobbies, unless her annual two month visit to Idlewild can be considered so. Even there she can't get away from organizational work, for she's president of the Lot Owners Association, the group that runs the Idlewild club house.

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Women's Party Talks 'Equal' Rights But Ignores Negro Women

"Daily Worker" New York N.Y.

JAN 29 1943

By Elizabeth Gurley Flynn

Does the Woman's Party, sponsor of the phony "Equal Rights" Amendment, know or care that the 19th Amendment, which granted equal suffrage to American women is flouted and nullified in the poll tax South? I doubt it by their record.

It is estimated that there are ten million voteless Americans in eight Southern States. The practice of prohibiting people from voting unless their poll tax is paid interferes with the Constitutional rights of men and women in the South. It is very probable that half of those affected are women Negro and white—even more than half among the Negro people are women, as there are more Negro women than men in the South. **Thus there are approximately five million American women who are deprived of the right to vote on the disqualification of not paying a poll tax, over half of them Negro women.**

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CURIOUS SILENCE

This is a fight for the rights of women on which the Women's Party is curiously silent. In fact on the whole issue of Negro rights which affects Negro women equally with their men, the Women's Party has never raised its otherwise clamorous voice.

The right of Negro citizens to vote—unmolested by threats of violence and unimpeded by all sorts of fantastic and insurmountable tests—has been an issue of justice and decency since the 15th amendment to the Constitution was passed in 1870; and for Negro women, since the woman's Suffrage Amendment of 1920. **The unqualified and unhampered right of all Negro American citizens to vote today is a vital part of our win-the-war efforts, a guarantee of the democracy within our own country which we are fighting to make possible for all peoples.**

FIGHT NOT FINISHED

Here was a burning issue for these arrant feminists to grasp immediately after Suffrage Amendment was passed—to fight against the continued denial and abridgement of the right of Negro women to vote in our country. **The battle for woman suffrage is not over until this decisive round has been won. But the unshaken silence of the Women's Party on this important matter is proof of their callous indifference to equal rights for Negro women.**

Discrimination in employment has been so widespread against the Negro people, especially against Negro women, that it is a disgrace in our country. The right of Negro women to work in all fields open to white women and men is essential to an all-out participation of the Negro people in the war effort, and for maximum war production. **The shameful practice of denying Negro women employment outside of the fields of domestic and personal service is long standing. It has been a bitter hard up-hill fight for some Negro women to be allowed to work as nurses, teachers, actresses, in offices, at skilled trades, in factories and shops.**

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Progressive unions have helped to open opportunities to Negro women, but so far only a few have been affected. President Roosevelt set up the "Fair Employment Practice Committee" known as the FEPC which it was hoped would deal vigorously with the grievances of the Negro people everywhere. The recent indefinite postponement by Paul V. McNutt of the scheduled hearings on discrimination in the railroad industry was a body blow threatening the independent action of this committee. Negro women have a myriad of just grievances to present. Their right to work is at stake. Here again the Women's Party's silence is eloquent of their unwillingness to fight for Negro women.

NEGRO WOMEN SUFFER

"Jim-Crow" is not masculine only. Marian Anderson, the gifted Negro singer has suffered from it, as have other well known women, including Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune. Thousands of humble and obscure Negro women suffer its insults, degradation, humiliation every day everywhere—North and South. Segregated to harder, dirtier work and lower pay in jobs, to poorer meaner accommodations in restaurants, hotels, stores, theatres, parks, recreation centers, denied access to all the better facilities of social life—except as they develop them for themselves among their own people—the wrongs inflicted upon our Negro sisters cry out aloud for redress.

But they fall unheeded on the ears of the Woman's Party, who could have made themselves the champions of Negro women for the past twenty years, and thereby enlisted the enthusiastic support and cooperation of all fairminded Americans, men and women. Instead they have made political alliances with Senators and Congressmen who belong to the "White Supremacy" groups. They are willing to accept the endorsement of labor baiters and Lily White Jim-Crowers for their phoney "Equal Rights" Amendment.

The acid test of the sincerity of any group, organization or party which proclaims its belief in equality and democracy is their attitude towards the rights of the Negro people. The Woman's Party are a complete wash-out on this test. To them apparently "equality" for Negro women means merely the "enjoyment" of the same lack of rights and opportunities which are the lot of the Negro men—an "equality" of Jim Crowism.

Chicago Bee

Chicago, Illinois

Chi's First Negro Woman Bailiff In Woman's Court

JAN 31 1943

All races, creeds and colors pass before Chicago's first Negro woman bailiff who recently was appointed to the women's court, 1121 South State street. She is Helen Gertrude Russell, and as far as can be learned, she is also the nation's only Negro woman bailiff. Miss Russell was deputized last year.

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A graduate of the English high school at Cambridge, Mass., she attended Radcliffe college for two years, majoring in social services. Active in women in defense work, she devotes her leisure time to the Robert S. Abbott chapter of the Women's Defense Corps of America, of which she is adjutant. She has had 17 years experience as a social worker on the South Side. Miss Russell lives with a sister at 6131 Michigan avenue.

MRS. BETHUNE HONORS DEFENDER PUBLISHER



Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois



Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, NYA leader and founder of the Bethune-Cookman college, joined with Chicago citizens last Saturday in paying tribute to John Sengstacke, president and general manager of the Robert S. Abbott Publishing company, and to Sengstacke's uncle, the late Robert Sengstacke Abbott, founder and publisher of The Chicago Defender. The occasion was a testimonial luncheon held at Morris' and Dr. Bethune introduced Sengstacke as the principal speaker. Shown in photo at top, are (left to right), Former Congressman Oscar DePriest, Ethel Waters, star of the stage, screen and radio; Mrs. Susie Myers, chairman of the Citizens' committee sponsoring the testimonial and Mrs. Luella Bailey, hostess to Miss Waters during her stay in Chicago. In lower photo, Dr. Bethune is shown congratulating Sengstacke.

'Let's Get Acquainted'



The Worker
New York, N. Y.

Like these two girl war workers, Negro and white, who [illegible] friends as they toiled for victory at the same machine, it's high time for women of every free nation and people to get acquainted, the better to build a new world.

Dear Women's Page Editor:

We have been in this war for nineteen months, and we Negro women know why we are fighting, although some people try to confuse us by attacking us and other minorities.

This is one of Hitler's secret weapons, to make this country a second France. But we are not confused; we will carry on in spite of the assaults upon us (which are indirectly aimed at the President).

Hitler is doomed by that Second Front, which must and will surely come this year.

During the prosecution of the people's war, we have learned a lot about the history of the peoples of this world, which we had never before bothered to learn—especially our allies, whom we have come to love, admire and respect. Certainly we will want to become better acquainted with each other when peace comes. I would like to see especially the women of the world, because we have so much to lend to each other for the good of society.

We should be ready and willing to see a **World Congress of Colored Women.** I think the time has come for such an organization, so that we shall know and work together for the good of mankind.

EDNA LEWIS.

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